Agriculture – 1917
Labor Conditions

Farm Laborers to be Recruited On Program Approved By War Council

The Daily Herald. Dec 20, 1917.

FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT TO TOUR NATIONAL ARMY CANTONMENTS

(International News Service.)

New York, Dec. 19.—Ex-President William Howard Taft will tour the National Army cantonments under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. for a month, it was announced here today.

Mr. Taft will open his tour at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., on January 24. He will speak three times daily in the Y. M. C. A. Army auditoriums throughout the country, excepting those on the Great Lakes.

SLAVERY NOW IN TEXAS

The Guardian 5/19/17

PLANTERS AND CONSTABLES FINED FOR KEEPING COLORED PEOPLE IN BONDAGE UNDER PRETEXT OF LAW—ADMITTED HELD COLORED TO LABOR FOR 10 YEARS ON DEBT CHARGE.

Dallas(Texas.—Upon many of the larger cotton plantations of the more remote localities of the State a system of working Negro and even white laborers that is closely akin, it is alleged, to peonage has been practiced for years.

In the United States District Court here a few days ago, C. H. Sullivan, a wealthy planter who lives within 30 miles of Dallas; W. D. Colvin, a justice of the peace; W. I. Hickman, a constable; D. F. Ortrey, deputy constable; Morgan Parry, also a wealthy land proprietor, and R. M. Albright, a constable, were arraigned on charges of peonage. Each pleaded guilty and was fined from $200 to $1000.

It was developed that the practice of arresting Negroes on trivial charges and sending them to the plantations of Sullivan and Parry, where they were kept in practical bondage, had been going on for a long time.

Sullivan said the Negroes on his place had been there from seven to 10 years and that he had never had any trouble with them. He owns almost 800 acres of land.

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"It was not my intention to violate the law," he said. "I knew nothing of a peonage law. I considered it my duty to myself and to my wife and children to demand the payment of the $250 which the Negroes owed me. I have paid the penalty for wrong-doing many times over. My wife is almost a physical wreck as a result of the case. I ask you to remember me with kindness and as a Christian gentaleman and not as a lawbreaker."

From AMERICAN

Address: Baltimore, Md.

Date ..... Baltimore, January ...

ALABAMA NEGROES IN NEED.

To the Editor: We trust you will be able to publish this appeal for aid for destitute negroes of Lowndes county, Alabama.

We, the undersigned committee appointed by the citizens of Lowndes county (Letohatchie, Ala.), to solicit aid for the destitute negroes of our county, on nccount of the ravages of boll weevil and July and August rains and storms, respectfully ask our more fortunate friends to feed and clothe these starving and suffering negroes, our friends and co-workers.

The Montgomery Daily Advertiser, of Montgomery, Ala., has from time to time given space in its editorial columns and otherwise, to the condition of poverty and want, occasioned by the absolute crop failure in Central Alabama, but the "half has never been told" and inasmuch as our neighboring counties (including Montgomery) are like sufferers form these conditions, we are asking our friends from a distance who are charitably inclined to help us.

What little corn was made has been distributed by the landlords and merchants without remuneration or discrimination among the poor and destitute, and this meager supply is now about exhausted and thousands throughout this section are now without bread, or the means to obtain same, many of the children and women as well as the men are barefooted and in need of clothing.

The white people, landlords and merchants have about exhausted what means they have in helping the distressed and hungry, and are now, many of them, negotiating loans on their lands and homes to enable them to live and secure the necessities of life.

There is also much sickness on account of exposure, and, indeed, these people are in sore distress and in need of help.

"He that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord."

Any contributions, whether in cash, provisions or clothing, will be distributed by the committee.

All cash contributions should be sent to A. J. Jenkins, chairman relief committee, Letohatchie, Ala., and merchandise to C. P. Rogers, Jr., care of Louisville and Nashville Railway Company.

A. J. JENKINS, Chairman.
Manager Western Union Telegraph Co.
C. P. ROGERS, JR.,
Agent Louisville and Nashville Railway Co. and Southern Express Co.
W. L. ADAMS,
Postmaster.
F. HERLONG,
Merchant.
W. E. WHITLEY,
Merchant.
W. B. McPHERSON,
Physician.
R. L. GRANT,
Farmer.

Letohatchie, Lowndes county, Ala.
January 10, 1917.

From AMERICAN

Address: Baltimore, Md.

Date .....

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Letohatchie, Lowndes county, Ala.,
January 10, 1917.

NEGRO CHARGES TWO BROTHERS WITH PEONAGE

Constitution 3-13-17

Macon, Ga., March 12.—(Special.)—William D. Graham, of Bleckley county, and Sam Graham, of Dodge county, brothers, were arraigned before United States Commissioner L. M. Erwin here today on a charge of peonage filed by Henry White, Jr., a negro. The Grahams own farms of 200 acres each and are well known in their respective counties. They gave bond today and will appear again next Friday. They deny their guilt.

From STAR

Address: St. Louis, Mo.

Date ....

MAR 31 1917

A Negro in a Cotton Patch

An Editorial by Arthur Brisbane.

The World's Highest Salaried Editorial Writer.

Prosperity on its way to Florida for a change climate passes many of the huts in which the cotton growers live. Here is a type that represents thousands.

It is a small hut, close to the railroad track. The chimney is made of clay, unbaked. Before the narrow door are four or five negro children watching the train pass. Two or three thin hogs and as many thin dogs move about or lie in the sunshine.

A mule, small but strong, stands in harness.

Around the black unpainted wooden cabin the cotton grows to the very door. You see still standing dead stalks from which cotton was picked last year. Blackened, half-burnt stumps of trees stand among the cotton plants.

The owner has not time or energy to clear them away. The mule in his spring plowing must turn out and pass each one.

The little black children look at the flying train with eyes wide open. The mother comes to the door for a moment, as the day's one excitement goes by.

The oldest child, almost a grown woman, dressed in bright pink calico, walks off into the wood—the only bright spot near that cabin.

A swamp is on one side of it and back of it, and a little beyond the swamp a grove of trees slashed and the bark cut away on each while the rosin drips into a tin cup.

The bare cotton plant stalks tell how and why the family live. The father and the mule do the hard work. All the family pick the cotton. They get just enough to take the family, mule, dogs and pigs to the next year. And if they got more, twice as much, it would still be just enough, for it would be gone with the beginning of the next year.

Upon this hut, inhabited by those that just keep alive, how much rests!

That cabin and thousands like it make the fortunes of the great cotton mill owners all over the world.

It supplies work to tens of thousands of operatives, great yachts to the most prosperous, millions to those that gamble in cotton and perhaps never saw a cotton stalk.

Hundreds of millions wear clothing, thanks to the work of the humble people in the South.

The little black cotton picking hands of those negro children are the hands that create an industry and fortunes of millions.

It is said that better times are coming for the South. Let us hope that they will extend to that family in the little cabin. It cannot do much for itself, but the intelligence of an abler race can do much for it.

From EVENING POST

Address: New York City

Date.....

An Acknowledgment.

The *Evening Post* acknowledges the receipt of $86 in four gifts for the negroes of Lowndes County, Ala., whose plight, the result of crop failures due to the boll weevil and extensive floods last summer, was described in the issue of last Tuesday. The contributions were: An anonymous gift of $50, a check for $25 from Charles P. Cooley, of Hartford, Conn.; $5 from Mrs. Howard Clarkson, of 58 West 37th Street, and $6 from "Palmetto." The money has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

From _____

Address: _____

Date.....

Asks Help for Negroes.

Mayor Behrman received Saturday an appeal from A. J. Jenkins, of Letohatchie, Ala., chairman of a relief committee, asking aid for the suffering negroes in that portion of Alabama. The letter stated that the boll weevil destroyed the crops and storms in July and August last year did such damage that there are many negroes in distress.

Agriculture — 1917

Labor Conditions

Journal & Guide 11-24-17

TREATING TENANT FARMERS RIGHT.

Tenant farmers in the South have had very little to encourage them. The average man farming under the old crop lien and tenant system has found himself just as deep if not deeper in debt in November as he was in March, and after a hard winter at scrapping around for an existence for himself and family he has started out in Spring with the same gloomy prospect of ending the crop year in debt. It is no wonder that under such conditions tenant-farming has impoverished much of the agricultural lands of the South devoted to that purpose and has driven thousands of young men to the cities who under more favorable conditions would have devoted their lives to farming. The manner in which tenants have been dealt with by many land-owners is largely responsible for past conditions. There is a growing sentiment, however, throughout the South, in favor of giving tenant farmers a better chance. A land owner writing in one of the agricultural papers lays down three rules of practice which he follows in dealing with his tenants:

1. Treat them right. Get your profits out of the land by good farming methods, and not by high time prices, high interest rates and padded accounts. The Golden Rule is not only right, but it's good business.

2. Develop their sense of responsibility. It does not pay to be nagging all the time about minute details. It doesn't concern me when my tenants get up or go to bed, when they start work or if they rest Saturday afternoons, provided their crops are clean and well worked. I want results, and let them understand that results count. I make them responsible. Nor do I propose to quarrel or argue; life's too short for petty bickerings. There are certain fundamental things I want done, and if these cannot be done cheerfully, then we part company without further ado.

3. Make big yields by following good methods. I'm a sticker for big yields per acre, for this is the only way to profits. I believe in the legumes and use them but with our present high prices for staple crops I believe in heavy applications of commercial fertilizers also. Good tenants go to the lands that have a reputation for big and paying yields.

It would be difficult to estimate the fortunes that have been built in the South upon high time prices, high interest rates and padded accounts at the expense of ignorant white and black tenant farmers. The Golden Rule method is best in dealing with labor, whether it is on the farm, in the factory or in any branch of industrial operations, and it is encouraging to note that some men are finding it so and have the courage to acknowledge the fact.

From EVENING POST

Address: New York City

MAR 6 1917

Date

Destitution in Lowndes County, Alabama

Failure of Cotton Crop Leaves Thousands of Negroes Without Sufficient Food and Clothing—An Appeal for Assistance

CONDITIONS among the negroes in Lowndes County, Ala., who have been reduced to poverty because of the failure of cotton crops caused by the storms of the summer and the ravages of the boll weevil, are set forth in a letter just received in this city by Isaac Sternberger, of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, from A. J. Jenkins, Mayor of Letohatchie, Ala., and manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Sternberger got into touch with Mr. Jenkins through an appeal of Mr. Jenkins's printed in the *Evening Post* in December. The letter, dated February 3, says:

"Mr. W. M. McGrath, general agent of the Red Cross of America, when we were returning from my residence at dinner yesterday stopped a moment just before we got to my store and remarked: 'I wish I had a picture of this scene. I would like to send it to my people and to one of the big New York papers.' He referred to about five hundred hungry, half-naked barefooted, poor negroes huddled by the side of the store on the frozen ground, waiting their turn to get a little ration of meat and a peck of meal. Many of them had walked from five to ten miles to get here on Friday (that is the Red Cross ration day) to get this little mite.

"We, of course, had all crowded into the stores that could get to the fire, and these poor unfortunates had to stay on the frozen ground until their turn came. The thermometer here this A. M. is down to 5, so it is useless for me to tell you of the untold suffering of these people. A few kind friends like yourself have responded to my article in the *Evening Post* of some time ago, and then the good Red Cross saw it, and sent a man here to investigate, with the result that they are helping feed the sufferers for a while, though I am advised by Mr. McGrath that this will last only until March 1, and the good Lord only knows what will be done then.

NEED OF MONEY.

"I have received some cash from a few business firms in New York and other places that I have had business dealings with, but these amounts, which were promptly expended in shoes and clothing, were or have been only 'a drop in the bucket.' I tax the home people every week for a little flour, sugar, etc., for the sick, and the local doctor here has done his full share in free practice, and never fails to respond when called on, though he is a poor man and is sometimes embarrassed for funds with which to purchase the necessary medicine. This I supply him whenever he calls on me.

"You can easily understand these conditions when I tell you that this doctor advises me that he collected out of a $3,000 practice last year $123.90 and fifty bushels of corn. A man might be a miser or have a heart of stone, but he would and could not come here and make one day's round with me, or stand here one Friday (ration day), and not have that heart melted to some extent.

"I shall continue to write friends, and do the best I can. In the meantime, should you feel disposed to do so, I would impose on you to see a few friends for me, and, if this is asking too much, furnish me a few names of your friends, and I will write them.

"In regard to Philip Gibson, you can write him care A. H. Jenkins (he lives on my son's plantation), and he will get the letter all right, addressed this way, to Letohatchie. You would have been amused this A. M. when I said to him: 'Philip, that good man in New York that sent you the suit of clothes is coming down to see me, and I am going to bring him out to see you.' He said:

"'My Lord, Boss, can't you ax him to please, sir, wait till I can raise a few roasting ears and a few chickens, for God knows I want Jennie to get out her one good table-cloth, and have you and this good gentleman something to eat when you-all comes to see me? And right now I ain't got a thing on God's earth except that one-half bushel meal and four pounds meat you-all gave me yesterday, and I am 'shamed for my good white folks to even come in my house when I has nothing in the world.'

HOPES FOR BEST.

"I told him that was all right, that we knew his heart was in the right place anyway, and that we would wait until his garden came on and then this good man from New York was going to pay me a visit and he could get to see him. I thank you for your kindly interest, and it is through the noble heartedness of such men as you that I feel constrained to the conclusion that some plan will be worked out to save these poor, humble human beings from premature death."

Mr. Jenkins encloses in his letter a printed appeal "for the aid of destitute negroes of Lowndes County, Ala.," signed by himself and by C. P. Rogers, agent of the L. & N. R. R. Co., W. L. Adams, postmaster; W. B. McPherson, physician; W. E. Whitley, merchant; F. Herlong, merchant; and R. L. Grant, farmer. The appeal, which is written from Letohatchie, says:

We, the undersigned committee, appointed by the citizens of Lowndes County, Letohatchie, Ala., to solicit aid for the destitute and hungry negroes of this section, occasioned by the absolute crop failure of this year, brought about by the storms and rains through the entire months of July and August, together with the ravages of the boll weevil, respectfully ask our more fortunate citizens to help us care for these unfortunate, starving people.

The *Montgomery Daily Advertiser*, of Montgomery, Ala., has from time to time through its columns referred to these conditions, but "the half has never been told."

Inasmuch as our neighboring counties, including Montgomery, are in the same zone with us, and, therefore, obliged to care for their own suffering, we are taking this method of asking our good friends from a distance to help us.

What little corn there was raised on the hill lands has been distributed by the landlords and merchants indiscriminately, and without remuneration, and now that this meagre supply has been exhausted, the negroes are face to face with dire distress. There is much sickness due to exposure, as many men, women, and children are without shoes and very poorly clad. The landlords made no attempt to collect last year's rents and advances, and it is easy to conjecture their financial condition or ability to contribute.

Help us, remembering the scriptural injunction: "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord."

Any cash contributions can be sent to A. J. Jenkins, Chairman Relief Committee, and any clothing, whether new or second-hand, or provisions, to C. P. Rogers, agent, L. & N. Railroad Co.

C. P. Rogers, sr., of Letchatchie, writing in response to inquiries from the *Evening Post*, says:

The war, drought, flood, and boll weevil, all providential causes, have bankrupted the white people, who mortgaged their lands to feed and supply the laborers, for three years past, with no returns, and the banks and the Sheriffs of the counties are doing a lively business foreclosing and selling our property at forced sales. The old men, women, and children are the worst sufferers, and their wants are positive and acute. They are suffering for bread and clothing. We have tried to help them, but our means are limited, and the demand for assistance is greater than our ability. There is no work that we can give them to do until April next. I don't mean the young men, for they can get work if they choose.

These old men and women who are destitute are not idlers; they have in former years added 50,000 bales of cotton from Lowndes County to the wealth of the nation, and helped to keep the balance of trade in our favor. Surely we ought to help them before we do the Belgians and other foreigners.

I am eighty-five years old and have lived among them all my life. They have shared my joys and sorrows and I have suffered mental anxiety on account of their destitution and our inability to help

them. It is hard to realize that here in Lowndes County, the richest agricultural county in Alabama and the garden-spot of it, any one should ever suffer for bread. We had in the county 30,000 negroes and 4,000 whites. I do not know how many have left. Over 300 square miles, one-fourth of the area of the county, is lying out, uncultivated. Two days ago I received a check for $50 from a gentleman of New York, Mr. Thomas J. Gale, who had heard of the distress of the negroes, with a request to apply the money where most needed, which I am doing through my three sons, who have been making cotton on 10,000 acres of land around Letchatchie and are conversant with their needs.

J. C. Wood, judge of probate, Lowndes County, writes from Hayneville:

"In some sections the conditions are pitiable, and being among people who have heretofore been substantial and able to care for themselves, makes it all the more pitiable. Just what to suggest, I am at a loss to say. It is nearly time for another crop to be planted, and whether the planters and land-owners will be able to finance their labor to produce the crop is the problem."

Frances Nimmo Greene, corresponding secretary of the Committee for the Relief of Destitute Country Negroes, writing to the *Evening Post* from Montgomery on January 4, says:

Your paper was generous enough to copy from a recent issue of the Montgomery *Advertiser* a short account of the work being done here for the alleviation of suffering among negroes in country districts. I am writing now to say that this interest on your part has helped the small efforts of our Committee appreciably. In response to your notice of the work, Messrs. Alden Sampson and Walter Hinchman, of New York, sent each a check for twenty dollars to the Montgomery *Advertiser*, and Mr. William G. Low, also of New York, followed with a check for one hundred dollars. These three sums have been turned over to our Committee by the Montgomery *Advertiser*.

This generosity on the part of your paper and of the three gentlemen mentioned, places an unexpected responsibility upon our Committee. Our people here, who are supporting our efforts, know what we are trying to do. May I not have the space for a short history of our very modest work that those friends whom you have invoked for it may know its extent and its limitations?

By reason of crop-failure and war prices, conditions of living have been hard in the South for the past two years, and, as always, disaster has fallen heaviest on the least prepared to withstand it. The negroes have suffered and are suffering.

It is true that though the white planters have lost tragically themselves, most of those who can are "carrying over" their hands this winter, and carried them last. But numbers of negroes live on little holdings of their own, or rent and farm independently. These naturally are suffering hardships—these and unfortunate others.

The approach of the Christmas season found an unprecedented number of charities on foot, but investigation developed the fact that the negro out on the little ruined farm had been left out of the Yuletide plans. Recognizing this, three women called themselves together in extraordinary session to try to get Christmas baskets sent out to the unfortunates. The Montgomery *Advertiser* promptly supported the effort, and has held up Moses's arms ever since.

In three days' time, the members of the self-appointed Committee found themselves facing a rescue work the magnitude of which they had not dreamed of. Small checks came flowing in—people who had given to every other charity suddenly finding that they had more to spare. The Committee had to get down to work in earnest.

The workers—with slightly augmented numbers—took to the country roads daily on tours of personal investigation. These tours, disclosing as they did stark necessity here and there, soon made the original plans of the Committee for Christmas Baskets seem almost a sacrilege.

Plans were quickly changed. Donated funds were banked, and thereafter spent from day to day on meat, meal, and pease—which provisions were carried to cabin doors and issued in a balanced ration. Where cases of sickness were found, butter, eggs, tea, sugar, and rice were added. Merchants supplied the goods at wholesale prices, and autos were loaned for their distribution.

Plans have changed again by reason of the sad fact that human creatures are as hungry and cold in January as in the generous Christmas season. The Committee continues its work. Some power has decreed that there shall be funds for the spending, and, so far, there has always been a bank balance to check upon. Those who conceived the work are going steadily forward with it in the hope and the faith that they will be enabled to extend it over the cold season. And the more optimistic of them dream of being able to purchase and distribute seed—criminally high in price—for early spring gardens.

In closing, let me state that the work of our Committee is neither great nor far-reaching, but that it is helpful and is sincere. Over three hundred people—good workers for the most part, but temporarily needy—have been issued rations for one, two, or three weeks. In addition to this, several hundred warm garments have been collected and distributed. We are gradually making a small list of absolutely helpless ones of whom we hope to take entire care till the summer.

Contributions may be sent to the *New York Evening Post*, and will then be sent on to the proper authorities in Alabama for distribution.

TROUBLESOME PROBLEM OF FARM LABOR IN SOUTH

The Atlanta

Solution of It Appears to Be in Proprietorship of Homes, Says This Writer.

1917

Constitution

For southern farmers to realize a full measure of that success they so justly deserve, it is necessary that they meet some profound obligations, and solve some intricate problems that have had quick birth in the confusion of war.

The question of southern farm labor is no new theme; but it has demanded attention since the first settlement in Virginia. Each decade or so farmers have brought up the sum on their slate, history, to the severe old schoolmaster. Time, who, after a few stern glances, erased the work and demanded that it be done over.

Each great national event discloses new phases of this troublesome problem. The civil war presented it in an especially difficult form. The southern farmer did not flinch, but met the issue fairly, squarely, unafraid, and solved it to the best of his ability. The solution was in making tenants and wage-earners of negro slaves. It was a giant's task nobly performed.

The negro race owes its quick transition from savagery to its present degree of civilization, to the magic touch of his former master. Speaking of that former master as a whole, he has acted nobly to the one-time slave. No mean spirit of gain prompted him to do as he has done these fifty-two years. No selfish motive moved the man who has shared his scanty portion of prosperity with the poor, simple child of mental bondage from whom war had stricken the shackles of physical slavery. This man for more than half a century has patiently encouraged, aided, taught and led his humble neighbor onward and upward toward the clearer light of a better life. That assertion needs no proof—but the proof is wafted on the breeze in the happy songs of negroes; it is recorded in the land records in every southern courthouse. It is evinced by schools and churches.

Farmer's Obligation to Labor.

On the other hand, the southern farmer is under obligation to the negro. Whatever success he has enjoyed came in part from the faithful labor of the negro. He owes much of his protection and the protection of his family to the peaceful disposition of the former slave. Is there another race under the canopy of heaven for which the southern farmer would exchange the black man? Is there another race with whom he could have lived so agreeably these fifty years or more? Is there another people who would have been, under similar circumstances, so eager to please; so humble, so loyal? The answer to all of which is no; and on that answer is hinged an obligation that can only be met in a solution of the labor problem.

The question is acute and of national importance; for the south is dependent upon negro labor as never before; the nation looks to the south for many things in the waging of the great war. The war conditions and demands have made great inroads into the ranks of white labor and as time goes on it will be still more diminished. The high wages offered by northern manufacturing interests and the consequent migration of negroes from this section means defeat for the farmer unless an adequate method of checking those migrations is found.

The question is: What is the best way to keep the negro at home? One way is to increase his wages and offer him better opportunities for making money. We are doing that to some extent, but is it possible to meet the war manufactures on that count?

Ownership First Step in Civilization.

We know that the negro is human, as we ourselves are human. We gladly recognize the fact that his race has made wonderful progress, but realize that it has yet far to go. History teaches us that one of the primal marks of civilization is ownership. Consider our own forefathers back in the dark ages; how they wandered from cane to cane, jabbering at each other like monkeys; never satisfied. When do we see any evidence of security, any of the marks of progress? Not until we find records of ownership, first of cattle, then of land. The deed to a plat of land was the first magna charta of personal liberty. Land ownership raised the standard of man's living; lifted woman from degredation, gave birth to marriage and the sanctity of the home.

The worst blight on the negro race is immorality. This is not meant as an indictment of the individual, for the writer believes that many negroes lead pure lives; nor is the statement meant to reflect blame upon the race. It is a sad state of affairs that has sprung from many circumstances. Take the criminal negro, the gambler, rapist, thief and murderer, does he come from families who own their land or even from those who own cows and poultry? Not once in a hundred times. He is a product of the town or the wandering driftwood of the farm.

May we not draw a solution of the labor problem from the lessons of ancient history, coupled with plain every-day observation? A solution that will anchor the worthy negro in the southland and let the worthless of that race go?

Ownership to Settle Problem.

It seems that the logical answer to the grave question is ownership. First, of personal property—see that every negro on your farm raises corn, peas and potatoes to supply his family, and that he has a cow and pig. This may cost you a bale or so of cotton and some effort. Remember that humanity's first upward step came through the pride of possession.

Next try to arrange to sell the worthy negro a cottage and a small plat of ground. Make the terms as easy as you can. It is a time-proven fact that once the possessor of a home your negro never lets go.

Let him live under his own roof and till your soil. It will raise his standards of citizenship and anchor him in your service. Is the plan not worth a trial?

The so-called cottage system is no new theory, except in the proposed application, for it has been practiced in the old countries with varying degrees of success.

Of course the white tenant farmer should have our first consideration, and then let's try and give our negro friend a better chance than former circumstances have allowed, that he may happily labor with us in the upbuilding of a grander and truer civilization.

W. R. TAPP,
Powder Springs, Ga.

ARREST 4 INDICTED ON PEONAGE CHARGES

The Dallas Express

ELLIS COUNTY MEN BROUGHT HERE—RELEASED ON BONDS.

1-20-17

Bills Returned by Federal Grand Jury Allege Negroes Held Against Their Own Wills.

C. H. Sullivan, a large land owner; D. F. Autry, a special officer; W. J. Hickman, a Deputy Constable, and W. D. Colvin, Justice of the Peace, all of Ellis County, were arrested yesterday by Deputy United States Marshal Mack Winkirson on indictments of three counts each, alleging peonage. The indictments were returned by the Federal Grand Jury, which completed its work last Monday.

All four men were brought to Dallas and arraigned before Judge Edward R. Meek of the Federal District Court. They were released on bond to await trial of their cases at the next sitting of the criminal docket, to begin on Jan. 29th. Sullivan's bond was fixed at $3,000 and bonds of he other three were fixed at $1,000 each.

The men charged were accompanied to Dallas by a party of ten men from Ellis County, who appeared before Judge Meek and made application to sign their bonds. It was said by the officers that the ten men represented realesate holdings to the amount of $750,000.

The arrests were the first ever made in the Northern District of Texas of the United States Court on peonage charges. No grand jury has ever been charged to investigate peonage since Judge Meek has presided over this court. W. C. Austin special agent of the United States District Attorney's office with headquarters in Ft. Worth, secured all evidence presened to the grand jury. The three counts of the indictments alleged (1) that three Negroes were held at work against their will, (2) that those charged in the indictments caused those (3) that the defendants caused the Negroes to be arrested on Dec. 27, '16, roes to be arrested on Dec. 24, 1916.

The indictments charged that, by threats, intimidation, force and the preferring of charges, it was purposed to hold the Negroes in a state of peonage. The Negroes who, it is alleged, were held in a state of peonage were Richard Black, Tom Powell and Jenella Johnson, the later a woman.

Sullivan claimed that the Negroes owed him money, which they declared was not true. They left his farm and went to Ft. Worth. Hickman and Autery went after them on a warrent

From EVENING POST

Address: New York City

Date

GRATEFUL FOR AIDING NEGROES.

Mayor of Letohatchie, Ala., Thanks Readers of "Evening Post" for $275.

Acknowledging the latest instalment of money forwarded by the *Evening Post*, for its readers, A. J. Jenkins, Mayor of Letohatchie, Lowndes County, Ala., and chairman of the Relief Committee formed to aid the negroes of the county who have been rendered destitute by the ravages of the boll weevil and widespread floods which ruined last season's crops, writes:

"We are also thanking the good people through you for this help. It would be hard for you to surmise the great good this will do just at this particular time (Saturday evening). It enables us to administer to additional sick ones as well as those who have been confined to their beds for some time on account of sickness caused from exposure, and in many ways help these poor dependent people.

"The committee and myself beg to acknowledge our grateful thanks."

On March 6 the *Evening Post* published a detailed account of the destitution in Lowndes County. Since then readers have sent in contributions amounting to $274.82, all of which has been forwarded to Mayor Jenkins.

Agriculture — 1917

Food Shortage

BIG MASS MEETING CALLED ON MONDAY ON FOOD PROBLEM

Seriousness of Situation Recognized by Leading Business Men Who Desire to Confer With the People, Black and White, and Set Forth Actual Conditions Now Existing and Those Highly Probable to Develop; Meeting Called For Court House at 8 O'clock Monday Evening

Advertiser 4-8-17

To the People of Montgomery County:

For the purpose of guarding against a food famine in this section of Alabama and to consider ways and means for protecting other home interests, the undersigned committee of the Chamber of Commerce hereby calls a mass meeting of the men and women, white and black, of this county at the Montgomery court house for 8 o'clock Monday evening, April 9th.

Governor Henderson, the City Commissioners and members of the Board of Revenue of our county have been invited to be present. Pastors of all Montgomery churches have been requested to communicate the invitation to their congregations at services on Sunday.

Our citizenship will be tested in the problem of taking care of ourselves at this critical moment in the history of our country. You are urged to reach your neighbors with messages inviting them to participate in the meeting Monday night.

A. C. Davis, chairman; C. H. Allen, R. M. Hobbie F. H Miller. C. J. Beane W. F. Black. Committee.

A mass meeting to which all men and women white and black of Montgomery county are invited will be held at the Montgomery county court house Monday night at 8 o'clock, fr the purpose of guarding against a fod famine in this section of the state and to consider ways and means for protecting other home interests. The mass meeting was called by the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce after sitting in special meeting at their room Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock.

The meeting was called by A. C. Davis president of the commercial organization for the purpose of receiving the report of the Montgomery delegation consisting of Charles J. Beane, R. M. Hobtie, Bruce Kennedy and William F. Black, who attended the Southeastern Food conference in Atlanta last Thursday. The report submitted by Mr. Beane was received and approved by the members of the board after short talks by Mr. Hobtie, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Black on the work of the conference, all three emphasizing the seriousness of the food situation as outlined by Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of the department of agriculture of the United States.

Mass Meeting Called

The directors decided to call a mass meeting to be held at the court house Monday night at 8 o'clock to which all men and women, both white and black are invited. The plans for the mass meeting were left to a committee consisting of A. C. Davis, chairman R. M. Hobbie, C. H. Allen, C. J. Beane F. H. Miller and W. F. Black.

At this meeting measures for home protection with special reference to safe guarding against a food famine will be adopted.

Gov. Henderson, members of the city commission of Montgomery and members of the board of revenue of Montgomery county have been extended a special invitation to attend the meeting, and every citizen of the county is asked to communicate the invitation by phone or otherwise to his friends to be present prepared to give information as to the seed supply and other conditions in this community. All ministers of the city, including the negroes, have been asked to communicate the invitation to their congregations at Sunday's services by reading the following announcement:

Call From Ministers

"For the purpose of conserving the public welfare of the citizens of Montgomery county both black and white a mass meeting will be held at the court house Monday evening, April 9th at 8 o'clock, when steps will be taken to endeavor to conserve the food supply, providing seed for destitute farmers, distributing products when they come from the farmer and other matters of public moment.

"This congregation is invited to be present at that meeting."

Mr. Beane presented a list of six recommendations drawn up by the ways and means committee of the conference at Atlanta and urged that they be adopted by the directors, which they did. The recommendations of the committee on ways and means follow:

Six Recommendations.

"1. A committee to be known as a committee of Public Safety shall be appointed at once in every county of the Southeast, its first duty being to organize committees in every beat of the county.

"2. The county committees will advocate a plan of action for growth of food stuffs providing information with a 40-acre farm as a basis. This infrmation in the form of printed matter is to be issued, by the conference itself to the various committees.

"3. Effort is to be made at once to ascertain the seed supply for planting food stuff in the various counties with provision for furnishing seed to farmers unable to buy them.

"4. The county committee is expected to provide a plan for marketing or distributing food stuffs when they are delivered to the commercial cities by growers.

"5. The conference agreed to advocate the planting of gardens by home owners both in the country and in the city and to ask every family as far as possible to provide itself with a dairy cow.

"6. It was recommended by the conference that the county committee of public safety should concern themselves further than with the question of food and should be constantly on guard for the protection of the people, reporting to the proper authorities supicious conduct or anything of unusual moment.

The following resolutions were adopted by the three hundred business men who attended the conference at Atlanta:

Atlanta Resolutions

"Whereas, in view of the present crisis in international affairs, the dearth of good throughout the world and the evident shortage which will occur in the United States even under the most capable and efficent organization of our farms in 1917, and because of the enormous quantity of food for man and beast, which we have been drawing from other sections, which must now go to the armies, it becomes incumbent upon the Southern people to become at once self sustaining, thereby relieving the nation of a tremendous burden, which it can not carry in time of war; therefore be it

"Resolved by this conference of farmers, business men and bankers assembled at the call of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, that we desire to commend the active and sympathetic aid, which the secretary of agriculture has extended to the movement for increasing the food supply of the South. We believe this assemblage should memorialize him to the effect that he instruct the county agents and all other workers conected with the department of agriculture to urge the imperative necessity of planting food crops upon the attention of the demonstrators, co-operators and others with whom they come in contact in the discharge of their duties

Bases For Information

'Resolved, that the officials in charge of the various state colleges of agriculture and experiment stations be requested to advise the county agents under their charge to promote the establishment of gardens in connections with every home and the planting of food crops on the following basis:

"'On the average one-horse farm in the South there should be planted in 1917 5 acres in corn and velvet beans; 5 acres in cowpeas for hay to be followed by winter oats; not exceeding 10 acres in cotton; 5 acres in peanuts to be crushed for oil or grazed down by hogs; 1 1-2 acres in sweet potatoes to be followed by winter cover crops; 1 1-2 acres in alfalfa or crimson clover, cowpeas of soy beans; 1 1-2 acres in rape, oats, vetch, cowpeas, or soy beans; 1- 1-2 acres in truck crops followed by hay or grazing crops for hogs; 10 acres should be set aside for pasturage for cows and hogs; 1-2 acre in orchard and 1-2 acre in garden.'

"This plan should be adjusted or modified by the proper committees having the food supply in charge in the respective States to meet local conditions.

"Resolved that the state commissioners of agriculture be asked to lend their active aid and sympathetic support to this movement and to assure the farmers that they will aid them in securing a satisfactory market for their surplus food crops.

Urge Co-Operation

"Resolved, that the chamber of commerce, boards of trade, textile manufacturers, business men, supply merchants, bankers railroads, fertilizer manufacturers, oilmill operators, farmers unions, state agricultural societies co-operative organizations, the Fed

BIG GRAIN DEMANDS ON UNITED STATES

Constitution 6-3-17

Allies and European Neutrals Require 971,000,000 Bushels, According to Hoover — Major Load on America.

Washington, June 2.—The grain requirements of the allies and the European neutrals were put at 971,000,000 bushels, a total much greater than the United States can supply, in a statement by Herbert C. Hoover today, listing the minimum needs of each nation for human consumption and for feed.

The amounts have been presented to Mr. Hoover by the foreign governments as follows:

	Bread Grains, Bu.	Fodder Grains, Bu.
United Kingdom	225,000,000	170,000,000
France	175,000,000	70,000,000
Italy	90,000,000	60,000,000
Belgium and Portugal	50,000,000	None.
European neutrals and ex-European neutrals	15,000,000	116,000,000
Totals	555,000,000	416,000,000

"It will, of course, be impossible," said Mr. Hoover, "for North America to furnish this quantity, although the major load must fall on us. In any event it emphasizes the necessity for control of exports in order to control prices and protect our supply, and the necessity for conservation and elimination of waste in order to increase the volume of our exports."

600,000,000 Bushels For Export.

Mr. Hoover believes the United States and Canada can export this year at least 600,000,000 bushels of grain. If the winter wheat crop improves and the spring crop is larger than normal he believes this may be increased to 800,000,000. Shipment of that much grain, much of it wheat, however, will force American consumers to eat less wheat than usual and eat more of other cereals.

Co-ordination of allied food purchases will be established as soon as the food bills and the export limitations act become laws. At present the allies and neutral countries are purchasing in large quantities for future delivery. There is no guarantee that all these deliveries will be made, as this government may hold up contracts to assure of an adequate food supply at home. The food administration, as soon as it is created, will begin to pass on these purchases to protect American consumers.

Mr. Hoover denied a report today that the food administration will buy the country's grain crop for distribution. There is no intention, he said, of going into the grain business.

More than a dozen women home economic experts called on Mr. Hoover today to learn how they may assist in food conservation. Most of them are teachers of home economics in women's colleges.

VEGETABLE DIET URGED BY HOOVER.

Washington, June 2.—An increased vegetable diet was urged on the American people today by Herbert C. Hoover as a means of conserving the supply of staple foodstuffs. In an appeal to the country's housewives Mr. Hoover emphasized the allies' needs of staples and the probable needs of this country next winter.

"We want the American people to increase the proportion of vegetables in their diet for many reasons," Mr. Hoover said. "Vegetables, including potatoes, compose but a small fraction of the diet of the Americans, considered as a nation.

"Of the total foodstuffs, in terms of units, only about 14 per cent are supplied in the form of vegetables, while some 40 per cent arises from cereal products, including bread, 20 per cent from various animal products and 13 per cent from sugar.

"The widespread agitation throughout the country to increase production of foodstuffs has resulted in a large expansion of the garden area, and with normal weather conditions we may hope for a greatly increased supply of garden vegetables.

"To double the proportion of vegetables and thus diminish proportionally

e drain of bread and meat supplies, in no way suggests vegetarianism; public health will not only be normal, but especially during the summer months will even be improved if the proportion of vegetables in the general diet is doubled.

"If the rural populations, including in this term the larger towns and smaller cities, would during the months of July, August and September reduce the consumption of sugar one ounce, bread four ounces a day, meat one and a half ounces per day, and vegetables were substituted instead, the economy saving would represent the saving of 20,000,000 bushels of wheat, 126,000 tons of sugar and 700,000 beeves.

"We must realize that to relax the strain on our transportation facilities and to fulfill obligations to our allies, it is necessary that we consume perishable foodstuffs; that we consume them as near the source as possible and that we conserve staple foodstuffs as far as possible for winter use and for export to our allies."

COLORED POPULATION IN BACK-LOT GARDENING

RICHMOND VA TIMES DISPATCH
SEPTEMBER 16, 1917

Jackson Ward Dotted With Little Patches That Produce Astonishing Quantities of Vegetables.

WHITE FOLKS BEATEN IN CROPS

Large Plots Cultivated Wherever They Could Be Obtained—Colored "West-Enders" Spread Themselves. Vegetables to Eat and Sell.

"From information I have received, I am of the opinion that the colored people of Richmond grew more vegetables in the back lots this year than did the white people; that is more in proportion to the back-lot ground they had at their command." Thus spoke a prominent Richmond banker. An investigation proves that the banker had formed the correct opinion.

The negro is naturally a good gardener, and it is his nature to dig in the ground when he has the chance. The back-lot garden is no new thing to him. Every colored man who owns a home in Richmond, and every one who rents a house in which to live will plant something in the ground, even if he has only a few feet at his disposal. If he has a good-sized back lot, as many of them who live on the outer edges of the city have, they are certain to grow a few vegetables every year. This was his rule long before the war was ever dreamed of, and so it was not necessary for the government officials to admonish him to dig up the little mite of city land he had control of and grow thereon a few vegetables for himself and family.

However, the appeals of the government and other food conservators found ready response from the Richmond colored men and women. Every one of them who had access to a little plot of ground and had been in the habit of growing a few vegetables, have this year done their level best to make two potatoes grow where only one grew before; many have increased their land holdings by renting parts of vacant lots near to their homes; many have done away with flowers in their yards and put onions, beets, potatoes and what-not in their place, and yet others have rented plots of ground out in the suburbs far away from their city homes and worked them for all they were worth, going out in early morning before business hours and at dewey evening after business hours to work them.

TINY GARDENS SCATTERED ALL OVER JACKSON WARD

As a general thing, the colored people of old Jackson Ward live on contracted premises, and many of them have not a foot of ground they could put in vegetables, no matter how fashionable the fad had become. Those who had only a few feet of spare back yard did not, as so many white people did, say it was no use to cultivate so small a space; but went to work and grew as much as they could. The result is, the "ward" has, all the past summer, been dotted with little patches, some of them no larger than an ordinary office table, and it is astonishing the quantity of vegetables some of them have grown on such little bits of ground as that.

Some of the colored people in the heart of the city had control of more back lot ground, and they utilized every inch of it. Dozens of them could be named who raised in such spaces a sufficiency of vegetables for their family consumption, and had some to sell or to give to their less fortunate enighbors. Melvin Coleman, who lives on North Fifth Street, put every inch of his back lot in vegetables and raised more than his family needed. Frank Augustas, on East Clay Street, had as fine a garden for its size as is to be found anywhere within twenty miles around Richmond, in which he grew a wonderful variety of vegetables. Christopher Williams, of Washington Park, made a back lot garden that any Virginia farmer might well have been proud of. A hundred or more other worthy colored men could be named who have done as well in the crowded sections of the city.

VEGETABLE MAKING IN THE COLORED "WEST END"

Out in that part of the city that used to be called Sidney is a large negro settlement. Somewhere from 2,000 to 3,000 live there, and it is now known as the colored people's "West End." Out there they have larger lots, a great many of them being owned by the colored people. It is safe to say every owner of a lot had a good garden this year and nine-tenths of the renters also dug up their back lots and made vegetables. Others rented vacant lots, and many of the vegetables sold on the market during the summer were grown in the colored "West End." Out in that locality Frank Davis, St. Elmore Funn, Elias Thornton and Joe Woodridge were leaders, who not only made magnificent gardens themselves, but encouraged and advised their neighbors to do likewise. Their advice was heeded with the results recounted above.

Across Shockoe Creek and around Cemetery Hill, in Barton Heights, is a large settlement of worthy colored people to whom the back lot garden was no new thing—they have them every year—but this year they heard the food conservation cry and redoubled their efforts. Every one who was in the habit of making his own vegetables determined to make more than enough this year, and others who had been more or less indifferent heretofore, utilized what ground they had and borrowed or rented more and the denizens of Shockoe Valley and Cemetery Hill have been considerable sellers of fresh vegetables all the season. In the eastern section of the city and in South Richmond the colored gardeners have done as well on the back lots as their brethren in other parts of the city. The banker was right: In proportion to the ground the Richmond darkies had to work, they have probably beaten the white folks in war-time gardening.

COLORED PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN FOOD CONSERVATION

SPARTANBURG S C JOURNAL
AUGUST 15, 1917

During the past week a tour has been made through the northern part of Spartanburg county by Mary E. Foster, rural industrial supervisor, Mary H. Wright, teacher of the Carlier Street school, George Danals, farm demonstrator of Orangeburg county and F. M. Stally, head of the dairy department of the State College at Orangeburg. In each place visited canning demonstrations were given by the cold packed method and lectures were given on agriculture, dairying, community uplift and school improvements.

The first trip was made to the McWhirter Academy, the party being accompanied by Charley Dogan, a former teacher of that community, but now engaged in Y. M. C. A. work in Norfolk, Va. The teacher, Hattie McWhirter, lives in that community and she, with other active workers, had encouraged a large number of men, women and children to meet at the school house. The women and girls brought such fruit and vegetables that they wished to take lessons from and it was not many minutes before nine different kinds of fruit and vegetables were ready for packing and processing.

Sims Chapel community was the next place visited. The party was accompanied by Nola Lawton, Dr. Henry H. Haddy, Charley Walker, Mrs. R. L. Hixson and sister. Five kinds of fruit and vegetables were canned there and the demonstrations extended until 9 o'clock in the evening.

At Chesnee the appreciation of the visit was shown by the number present and the interest given in the demonstrations and lectures. There were representatives from Cherokee, Brooklyn, Gaffney Chapel and Chesnee. The most important feature of the visit to Chesnee was the co-operation shown by the farm demonstrator of Spartanburg county, Prof. J. F. Ezell. He was full of enthusiasm and gave many helpful suggestions on thrift, economy and patriotism.

Rev. B. F. Mills dismissed his congregation that was attending the revival at New Bedford and accompanied them to see the demonstrations. There are two canneries owned by the colored people and they had been canning on large scales at wholesale prices. Each home in that community had an average of 125 jars already canned. However, the women were especially glad to get instructions in canning beans and corn. Plans are in the hands of the builders and lumber is being sawed for a Rosenwald school in the community. While there the party was shown the three-acre site on which the building will be located.

The work at Landrum under Maud Gidney has always been a success and as usual every man, woman and child came prepared to receive instructions. The boys were just as interested as the girls and men brought fruit in wagons. The work continued until night and every one went away fully determined to make Spartanburg county feed herself.

On account of many of the families of Fair Forest having moved away for the training camp, the number there was small but the interest was more sincere than any place visited. The pastor of the community cooperated with the party in the movement and the demonstration was given in the parsonage.

The enthusiasm shown by the people of Shady Grove community far surpassed any community visited. There were more than 300 present. Represenatives from Inman, Campton, Wellford and Tucapau. The teacher, Miss Rookard, is teaching a pay school term for the summer and the school children took advantage of the crowd and furnished refreshments for the number present and thereby were able to make a good report in rating money for the teacher's salary. A church a hall and a school house constitute the public buildings for the colored people of a rural community. Shady Grove is in the lead with her public buildings and location. Mr. McRalph, a white citizen of that community was present and expressed his interest in the movement.

With the encouragement of the county superintendent, Prof. Barney S. Haynes, the work of the food saving campaign will continue and the committee is planning to visit Cowpens, White Stone, Pacolet, Roebuck, Moore, Switzer, Woodruff, Enoree, Cross Anchor, Wellford, Duncan and other places in the southern part of the county.

How To Help

See if you can't find some worthy negro man or woman in your community who would grow a garden if he or she had the land and the seed. If you have vacant land suitable for a garden, donate it and the seed too. There are whole lots of the colored folks who need such help now and would be glad to get it. This isn't "charity." It is simply doing your co-operative bit in helping our folks feed themselves. You are furnishing the land and seed and the other man or woman is furnishing the labor. The entire community is benefitted because just that much more food is raised at home.

Don't wait for somebody to ask you. Go out and see if you can't find a little work like this you can do. And if you can find such work and do it, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped your State and your country. This is real patriotism. Anybody can get up and talk loosely about "raising a regiment." But it takes a little effort and some real understanding of the situation to help somebody else get land and seed for a garden.

Get busy today and perform a little of this real patriotism. Help the other fellow help himself and you will have helped your country.

Making Idle Negroes Work Would Help Food Situation

5-1-17

Editor Constitution: At a farmers' meeting near Columbus a very practical farmer's wife said: "It is all very well to talk about increasing production, but what we need is labor."

The next day I took the trouble to make a superficial survey of the situation and I found that hundreds of negroes in Columbus were either doing nothing or so near nothing that they might be conscripted for the farms without dislocating any industry or seriously interfering with the mode of living of the average citizen.

No doubt the vagrancy laws of Georgia could be used to put idle negroes to work; if the people of the cities want to do real, practical work, let them put some of their servants at the disposal of the farmers of their section four days a week and through organization put into practical effect some of the advice that is so freely given to the farmer.

It takes more than enthusiasm to raise a garden or do general farming; if this labor is used the farmer can plant some cotton and raise all the other things necessary and will acquire a confidence in the advice of the future that he never has had in the past.

MORT L. BIXLER.

Columbus, Ga.

NEGROES AT WEBB ORGANIZE TO HELP IN FOOD CAMPAIGN

5-13-17

(Special to The Advertiser.)

WEBB, ALA., May 12.—A mass meeting of the colored people was held at the church Thursday night and after listening to interesting discussions by Professor Raikstraw, of Tuskegee Institute, and Hattie R. Smith, colored rural school supervisor for Houston county, on the subjects of serving the flag, the production of more foodstuffs, and the practice of economy in the home, organized a Farmers' club, a Home Improvement club, and a Canning club.

The audience was much enthused and Webb's colored population promises not to lag behind in doing "their bit" for the country during these trying times.

A series of these meetings have been held at different points in the county and great interest has been awakened among the colored race. Professor Raikstraw lectures his people against the emigration to the north, advises them to remain in the south among their friends, and exhorts them to toil earnestly to produce more on the farm and to be honest and true to the flag. He tells them how to live at home, and to be true American citizens, and it

COLORED WOMEN REGISTER LARGEST NUMBER

The Advertiser 8/4/17

In the recent registration of the women on July 28th, 1917, the largest number of signed cards for the Hoover Pledge for Food Conservation was turned in from the 11th precinct of the 6th ward which took the palm for the entire city of St. Louis. This work was done by Miss Mildred Mills, under the direction of Mrs. H. A. Smith, registrar.

Agriculture - 1917
Food Shortage

The Food Situation In the United States With Spacial Reference to the South

By D. F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture of the United States

There is nothing in the food situation of the country which justifies hysterical thinking or action. This is not a time for hysteria. Nor is this a time for the thought of the American people to be directed or dominated by those who have the interests of another country primarily at heart or any selfish interest to further.

U. S. Investigation.

The prices of foodstuffs are high. A full and satisfactory explanation of prevailing prices is not possible on the basis of existing knowledge. It is only recently that agencies have been created in this country to study food distribution, and we have not all the necessary facts to enable us to arrive at the truth. Where the food supply is located, who owns it, what may be the difficulties of securing it, whether the local market conditions are due to car shortage, whether there is artificial manipulation or control, no one can state with certainty. It is essential that we have the facts not only because of the light they might throw on present conditions but also because they are prerequisite for the working out of a permanent, just and economical system of marketing. Therefore the investigation directed by the president ought to be made promptly, and congress ought to give the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Agriculture the necessary funds. Certainly such an investigation can not furnish immediate relief, but it would be absurd to oppose it for this reason. It does not stand in the way of any other measures that may be wise. It does not prevent any constructive action on the part of any municipal or local agencies. We must have the facts and the sooner the investigation is undertaken the better. It is highly probable that as a result of it large permanent improvements may be made.

Food Conservation.

For partial immediate relief, every individual and community should consider earnestly the matter of food conservation and the limitation of waste. As a nation we seem to have a disdain of economizing. In many homes there is a strong feeling that it is 'only decent' to provide more food than will be eaten and that it is demeaning to reckon closely. The experts of the Department of Agriculture report to me that the dietary studies made by them point to an annual food waste of about $700,000,000. Of course, the waste in families of very limited means is slight, but in the families of moderate and ample means the waste is considerable. Even if the estimate were reduced by half the waste would still be enormous.

The food waste in the household results in large measure from bad preparation and bad cooking, from improper care and handling, and, in well-to-do families, from serving an undue number of courses and an overabundant supply and failing to save and utilize the food not consumed. As an instance of improper handling, it is discovered that in the preparation of potates 20 per cent of the edible portion in many cases is discarded.

Estimated Food Supply.

The weather conditions during the growing season of 1916 were unfavorable in many parts of the world. They were distinctly unfavorable in this country. Although there was a large wheat acreage, the weather conditions were such as to favor the appearance of the black-rust disease affecting wheat. The consequence was that although the acreage was large the yield was relatively small. The conditions were not especially favorable for corn and for some other important crops. Still the food output on the whole for the current year was not so small as to excite alarm.

The corn crop was 2,600,000,000 bushels, nearly the five-year average.

The oat crop was above the five-year average, the barley very nearly the five-year average, rye ten million bushels more than the five-year average, and rice 40,000,000 bushels, as against 29,000,000 bushels the year before, and 24,500,000 bushels, the five-year average. The production of kafir corn, a relatively new crop, was 50,000,000 bushels.

The production of peaches, 37,000,000 bushels, of pears 10,400,000 bushels, and of apples 67,500,000 barrels, represents approximately the five-year average, while the estimated production of oranges was 23,800,000 boxes, or 2,600,000 more than that of the preceding year. The crop of sugar beets was one of the largest ever produced.

Meat products, likewise, were produced in larger quantities, the estimated amount for the year being 22,378,000,000 pounds as against a five-year average of 19,712,000,000 pounds, or 2,000,000,000 pounds greater than the output for the year 1915.

Dairy Products.

Dairy products on the whole showed a gain. In 1915 we produced 7,696,844,000 gallons of milk. In 1916 we produced 7,959,656,000 gallons of milk. In 1915 we made 1,024,780,000 pounds of butter. In 1916 our production of butter was 1,059,771,000 pounds.

Poultry products have also increased. In 1915 the production of eggs was 1,810,912,000 dozens. In 1916 the production of eggs was 1,847,512,000 dozens. The number of fowls raised in 1915 was 555,494,000. In 1916 the number of fowls was 566,722,000.

Wheat and Potateos.

The two food products which reveal a marked decrease were wheat and Irish potatoes. It is evident that the public has failed to look at all the facts involved, especially in the case of wheat. The wheat crop for the current year was reported to be 640,000,000 bushels as against a five-year average of 728,000,000 bushels, and the record crop of 1915 of 1,026,000,000 bushels. Apparently, the public has compared the crop of 1916 solely with the record crop of 1915, and failed to take into account the unusually large carry over from that year into the present year of 164,000,000 bushels or more. Furthermore, its attention has been fixed on the large exports of the two years immediately following the outbreak of the war. The exports of wheat in normal times are approximately 105,000,000 bushels. The year preceding the war it was 145,000,000 bushels. In 1914-15 it was 332,000,000 bushels, dropping in 1915-16 to 243,000,000 bushels. Looking only at the crop of 640,000,000 bushels and having in mind the possibilities of export as suggested by the figure of 332,000,000 for 1914-15, the public naturally apprehended that there would be a lack of bread. Dealers and others become unduly excited. The total available supply, including both the crop and he carry over, aggregating 804,000,000 bushels—part of which, it should be said, was not suitable for milling purposes—should have been considered as well as the relatively small exports for the first six months of the current year. Up to the first of January, the exports were only 97,000,000 bushels, and they have tended to decrease partly on account of the disturbed shipping conditions since the first of January. Our normal domestic needs of wheat for human food, for seeding purposes, and for a reserve to carry over into the next year require 640,000,000 bushels. As I have stated, the total year's supply is 804,000,000 bushels. This would give us an available exportable surplus of 164,000,000 bushels. At the rate of export since the first of July, with the tendency to decline recently, we should have enough wheat in the country very nearly to supply normal needs.

Crop Prospects.

I am not a prophet and can not furnish any guarantee for the future. There are certain things, I do know. The farmers, governed as they are by ordinary motives, in response to the present level of prices, have in certain directions shown a definite purpose to increase their acreage. Winter wheat was sown in the fall. The reports reveal that the total acreage was 40,090,000. This is nearly 900,000 more than the amount planted the preceding fall. Much of the latter however, was winter killed, so that the planting this fall was 5,260,000 acres more than harvested last summer. Spring wheat has not been planted. In 1915 the acreage was 19,445,000 acres. The average acreage for five years is 18,800,000. It would be singular if this did not increase. But taking the average for five years and adding it to the winter wheat acreage, we have approximately 59,000,000 acres, or practically the same as the record acreage of 1915. What the yield per acre may be will depend largely on the weather conditions. The average of the six lowest yields per acre since 1894 was 12.5 bushels. This would give us 737,000,000 bushels of wheat. The average yield for five years down to the record crop year of 1916 was 14.9 bushels. This would give us 879,000,000 bushels of wheat. The average for five years including the record crop year was 15.5 bushels. This would give us 914,000,000 bushels. A yield equal to that of 1914 of 16.6 bushels would give us 979,000,000 bushels, while a yield equal to that of the record crop year would give us 1,000,000,000.

Situation in South.

The Department of Agriculture has done all it could prudently do to call attention to the desirability of adjusting the supply of different sorts of agricultural commodities to the demand. In the South, in particular, the department has waged a persistent campaign for some years to bring about a better agriculture, to stimulate the local production of an ampler supply of foodstuffs. The South has heretofore been too dependent on corn and cotton. It has put too many of its eggs in one basket. Although it is largely agricultural, it has imported in the neighborhood of six or seven hundred million dollars worth of foodstuffs from the west. It is clearly good economy for the south to supply her own foodstuffs and feedstuffs and it is certainly a safer practice for her to do so. The department, the agricultural colleges, and many other agencies, through the daily press, the agricultural journals, the bankers and business men, farmers' associations, bulletins and circulars, and the farm demonstration machinery reaching into many parts of the south, have urged the necessity of a better balanced agriculture and the wisdom of largely increasing foodstuffs. There has been a tendency over several years for the South to practice this agriculture and following the low price of cotton in 1914 the acreage in foodstuffs considerably increased. It remains to be seen how far the recent high price of cotton will check this tendency. It would be unfortunate if it did so.

The Meat Supply.

A further word should be said about the tendency of the meat supply to increase. While following the outbreak of the war, there was a considerable increase in exports of meats, amounting in 1916 to 1,500,000,000 pounds, the domestic production in 1916 was 3,000,000,000 pounds greater than in 1914, and the tendency is still upward. Figures recently submitted show that the number of cattle on January 1, 1917, was 1,037,000 greater than on January 1, 1916, and that the milk cows had increased in the same period 660,000. A very considerable development in live stock is taking place in the South.

No Federal Dictatorship.

The department and all the agricultural agencies in the country are giving definite and careful attention to these problems. The Federal government through several of its departments is giving continuous consideration to the immediate problems presented and to the possibility of remedial measures. The solution will certainly not involve a Federal dictatorship, and it is highly unlikely that it will involve a dictatorship in any state or community. America does not take kindly to dictators. The difficulties, in any event, would be very nearly insuperable. We have a continent to deal with and there are difficulties of double jurisdiction. Consider, for instance, the matter of fixing a minimum price. The Federal government could deal only with commodities passing into interstate commerce. The states might be hampered in attempting to fix price.

As I stated at the outset, there is no occasion for hysteria. Intelligent planning and constructive action, in conjunction with the operation of normal forces, are what we need and these only can bring about a satisfactory result.

MONTGOMERY IS READY TO 'DO HER BIT'

addressed

Fifteen Hundred People Crowd in Court House and Make Plans For Increasing Foodstuffs

4-10-17

NEGROES SHOW MUCH INTEREST IN PLANS

Public Welfare Committee Appointed to Make and Carry Out Plans For Avoiding Crisis

Fifteen hundred people of Montgomery county, including almost as many negroes as whites, in mass meeting assembled Monday night, set in motion the machinery whereby Montgomery county will perform its part of the burden of conserving the nation's food resources and of producing the food stuffs that will help solve the south's food deficit incident to the war with Germany. The meeting was acclaimed the greatest and most remarkable ever held in Montgomery and is conceded to have marked the beginning of a new era in this vicinity. The more bounteous growing of staple food products and individual gardening were easily the salient points stressed by the numerous patriotic speakers, in terms sincere and enthusiastic .

The crowd packed the upper floor of the county court house and was so large that two meetings were held concurrently. In one court room, the main meeting was held under the guidance of A. C. Davis, president of the Chamber of Commerce. Scores of people were standing and negroes, who had been warmly welcomed to the gathering, swarmed into the gallery, many having to stand. In the other court room, the overflow crowd assembled and yielded to the gavel swung by Ray Rushton, a distinguished lawyer, as chairman. Almost half of the persons present were negroes and standing room here also was at a premium. Brilliant speeches and talks marked both meetings.

Committee Is Organized

As a result, both meetings acted unanimously in accordance with the plans set in motion by the Atlanta Conference of April 5, and, after adopting the report of the Montgomery delegation to this conference, created a commit-

tee of public welfare of Montgomery county, composed of ten members, who will hold their first meeting Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Exchange National Bank to map out plans of action. The committee is composed of Michael Cody, president of the Exchange National Bank, chairman, R. M. Hobbie, C. J. Beane, R. M. Jones, Terry Greil, F. G. Salter, Sam Kaufman, J. B. Walter, Miss Nimmo Greene and J P. Kohn.

Before a background of large American flags, Mr. Davis opened the main meeting and for prayer called on Dr. R. M. McCaslin, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, who delivered a beautiful and timely invocation.

Davis Explains Problem

Mr. Davis explained that the hour was a solemn one, and that this country was confronted with the greatest problem and danger in its history. He declared the mass meeting had been called to discuss the situation, as the responsibility had been placed on every man, woman and child, white and colored, of producing adequate food supplies. The department of agriculture, he stated, took the lead in the movement for a conservation of the food resources. He told briefly of the action of last week's Atlanta conference, at which Montgomery was represented by a committee composed of C. J. Bean, R. M. Hobbie, Bruce Kennedy and W. F. Black. He said the meeting had been called to hear and act on the report of the commitee.

C. J. Bean, chairman of the Atlanto committees, read the report embodying the recommendations of the conference, and endosing those recommendations. He declared the Atlanta meeting was the most remarkable he has ever attended; it showed the interest in this great question by its personnel, and by attendance of about 250 persons from eight states.

Duty To Home People

'This is not an hour for oratory, it is no time for a Fourth of July speech," he said, "but both for economic and patriotic reasons we should undertake and accomplish this work. We should get busy. It is our duty to our home; our duty to our people; our duty to our country."

R. M. Hobbie, also a member of the committee announced the governor was unavoidably detained from the meeting, but assured the gathering that the executive was in hearty accord with the movement and if the meeting so advised, he would appoint committees in every county.

Mr. Hobbie declared that we should not nourish the conclusions that we are going to escape the hardships of the war, but that it will be brought to us and poverty will stalk up and down our streets unless we get busy right now and plant every acre in something of food value. Such a condition will prevail, he asserted, "unless we put our hands to the plow and plant corn all over this country.

Advises Light Buying

"He said he did not wish to cause unnecessary alarm or a panic. For that reason, he advised a number of inquirers not to buy heavily of food supplies, because that would make prices go skyward, but told them to buy less than for their ordinary needs.

"It isn't necessary to start a panic of that kind", he said. "I have confidence in our men. They can overcome these difficulties."

At the Atlanta meeting, he said, it was shown that the south annually consumes between six and seven hundred milions more than it produces and if the south feeds itself, this food can be used for the armies of the United States and its allies, and also will help to relieve the car shortage.

"If we are cut off from this six or seven hundred milions of food supplies, and don't do our part, don't stand up like men, and don't produce our own food crops, then I do say starvation will stalk up the streets of Montgomery,' he declared. The south, he insisted, too long has been dependent on other sections of the country. We have the brains, the men and the courage to do these things for ourselves and we ought to do it, he argued. For three years he has been pleading with the people to raise more grain and staple products. He said we won't get beyond the plan of raising these products for profit, but appealed to everyone's patriotism to produce grain to help feed our country and our army.

W. E. Matthews said it is as important to save the food crop as it is to make it, and pointed to the enormous waste in this country. Despite reports to the contrary, he said, there is a shortage of grain, canned goods and vegetables in this country. Every man should raise a garden for his own use. Owing to the short life of our gardens, he said arrangements should be made for canning. We have enough canned food and other products to carry us through this year, he held, but the trouble will come next year unless something is done. He stressed the importance of raising live-stock, and emphasized the wastage of food in the homes and on the tables, declaring that if we would take care of our foodstuffs and save in every possible way like the Germans, 'we would have enough to last for ten years." Instead of people buying large quantities, they should buy less and oftener, as laying in large supplies tends to make the consumer use more.

Faith in America.

Michael Cody declared that he has abiding faith in the ultimate triumph in whatever line it pursues. He was proud to be an American, and we have the best country here in the South. "And we are not going to get hungry either," he said, "because we are going to raise what we need to eat. We are going to get busy now."

Raising his face to the gallery, packed with negroes, he paid a touching tribute to the negro mammy, and said the members of the negro race were going to do their duty now. He believed that our farmers, white and colored, have but to understand that they must see to it that the souh feeds itself, and it will be done.

John P. Kohn heartily approved the committee's report and offered several very timely suggestions. He recommended that immediately the personal gardening proposition be put into effect and that every person who has anyone working for him, who is unable to buy seed, shall see that the seed are furnished him. He suggested also that every clerk, laborer and other working man be given one-half a day each week to go out and plant and work his garden. Some provision, he said, also should be made to take care of surplus perishable products, otherwise there will be great discouragement and loss. He suggested the installation of a few canneries by men of means.

Meeting Remarkable.

W. T. Sheehan, editor of The Advertiser, said the meeting was the most remarkable he had ever seen in Montgomery. There was a feeling of understanding and sympathy throughout: all were struggling with the same problem—the food problem. The report of the Atlanta committee, was significant, he said, and he praised the earnestness of these men.

If there is to be any change in the present condition, he stated, it can be taken for granted that it is going to be worse. Nothing but the end of the war, he observed, will cure this difficult situation, but there are no prospects of end under six months. He declared we are facing a stubborn fact, and that it is time for business men, professional men, farmers and practical men to form a plan, and that the working man will follow. The people realize the existing conditions and the are anxious for a remedy, he remarked, as he looked over the immense gathering. He argued that Germany had it easier in grappling with the food problem because she is an autocracy, its people being docile and submissive, but that here in America an appeal must be made to the people. He dwelt on the importance of cooperation particularly between the bankers, merchants and farmers.

It is good to have gardens, he asserted, as they are temporary substitutes, but the principal thing is to make our waste lands productive.

Quisenberry Speaks.

Ralph Quisenberry said that we have to face a grave situation and a big one. "It means the earnest thought of every individual to overcome this deficit of six or seven hundred millions in food supplies which the south has been drawing on other parts of the country for," he said. "We must first determine to feed our families and those dependent on us."

Dr. Charles A. Stakely, pastor of the First Baptist church, said it was a time when the business men should do the talking. He stated his people have never failed to follow him in any proposition he has made to them, and he believed he could pledge their support in any scheme to meet the crisis. We have at the head of our nation "A Great Man," he declared (applause) and in making any plans he urged that they should be as much for the colored as the white people.

J. R. Ogletree made a common sense talk. He wished the work started without delay.

"Where are the staple feed stuffs coming from?" he regarded as the most important question. A garden can be raised in six weeks, he said, but there are only four staple products we can rely on at this time of the year, corn, sweet potateos, sorghum and cane. "Where are our bankers?" he asked. He insisted the business men must put up the money to get many of the men back on the farms.

By request, Miss Nimmo Greene offered a few pertinent remarks. She asked who was going to do the work of growing these foodstuffs, with 76 per cent of the negroes away from the farms and working now principally in munition factories.

"I don't believe we are going to raise these six or seven hundred million dollars' worth unless we white men and women go to work and do it ourselves. You are not going to raise those hundreds of millions of food stuffs unless you all go to work," she said, after inquiring whether the young men who drapes the letter boxes and jerks the soda water would be willing to do his share.

"I'll help," she concluded.

Advocates Packing Plant.

W. G. Yelverton advocated a packing house and canning plants in Montgomery to take care of the stuffs we raise and then we would have no trouble at all He didn't believe we were going hungry. "You needn't worry about it, we are going to have something to eat," he remarked.

A. R. Harvey said we have God's chosen country, and all we need is to get busy. This section can grow anything on earth, and we have ten months in which to grow it.

Will Give Land.

He made the proposition that he will give the boy scouts ten acres of land and furnish them with the seed for a garden if somebody furnishes the mule to work it. He asked how many of "those fellows who have the money will help build a packing house," and he called on the people with the money to do something, taking a glentle fling at the men who have grown rich advancing to the negro farmers.

Miss Clara Sullivan, home demonstration agent in Macon county, was called on and observed that the chief difficulty in putting up canned goods in that county is the lack of cans, as they haven't the means, and she thought if the cans could be provided, they wouldn't need so much canned goods from other parts of the country.

C. B. Cooper said it was a good time to start a subscription for a fund with which to buy seed for persons unable to buy the seed themselves and he wished to subscribe.

Leopold Strauss recommended that the consent be asked of the city commissioner for the erection and maintenance of a bureau of information on Court Square where people can go for information and where persons having available land and parcels which they will yield to some for planting will list it.

This closed the speech making after which the report of the Atlanta committee was adopted by a rising vote, and the personnel of the committee of public welfare announced.

Want Funds Distributed.

Before adjournment, on motion of Michael Cody a resolution was adopted requesting the Federal Farm Loan Bank at New Orleans to begin the distribution of farm loan funds as early as possible. This action was taken after the chairman had read a telegram from Felix Tait, president of the Wilcox National Farm Loan Association. The message was sent from Camden and was addressed to Chairman Davis. It was as follows:

"Taking for granted your mass meeting tonight is of state-wide interest, please use whatever influence the Chamber of Comerce might have to induce land bank at New Orleans to make loans to farmers as soon as possible, thereby accommodating about fifteen hundred in this state. We need funds at once."

More Credit.

The overflow meeting ratified every thing that was done at the main session and in addition, recommended to the committee on public welfare that the plans to be adopted ask for the extension of a more liberal credit to farmers which suggestion was offered by Rabbi B. C. Ehrenreich and that all persons having real-estate in Montgomery available for gardening arrange to let those desiring to plant and work the gardens know about it so that they can get busy.

At the overflow session, the invocation was given by Dr. Ehrenreich. Talks were made by Mrs. Thomas M. Owen. Dr. I. L. Watkins, Dr. R. S. Hill, Duncan May, President Swartz of the Woman's Collegiate, Meyer L. Greil, J. L. Sibley, Dr. Ehrenreich, T. M. Campbell, state farm demonstrator for the negro race in Alabama; and Harry Sims (negro) former United States farm demonstration agent in Wilcox county, but now instructor here in the state normal school for negroes.

A Live Alabama County Is Solving the Problem Of Co-operative Marketing

An organization that will mean much to the Farmers of Talladega county, Alabama, in selling their surplus corn, velvet beans, potatoes, cotton seed, cattle, hogs, etc., in fact, anything else produced by them that can be collected and shipped in car lots to the better markets of the country, has been organized, and begins business with over one hundred of the best farmers of the county.

A complete summary of what the present membership will have to sell through the association, totals well over the 250-car mark for the coming harvest season. This will mean thousands of additional dollars to the farmers of that section, which they would never have realized had they depended upon their local markets to absorb their "bumper crop."

In the early spring it was predicted that with the exodus of the negro farm labor Talladega county would suffer a great loss in the present year's production. Long faces and hard-luck stories were common among the farmers, and to listen to their tales of woe, starvation was only a short distance ahead. This, however, they soon discovered, would not help matters, and the only solution was to get down to business, and produce at least enough to supply their own needs. Favorable seasons made the land responsive to their labors, and the harvest season of 1917 will set a new reecord for the county. Heretofore cotton has been their chief crop, and before it was ready to gather hundreds of thousands of bushels of corn, with hay and oats in proportion, were shipped into the county, which was bought and used by the farmers, and after their cotton had been gathered and sold there was barely enough to pay for the feed to produce it. A new entry is being made this year. Cotton to a very large extent has been eliminated, and a diversified crop planted instead. After laying away enough to supply their own needs, they will ship to foreign markets approximately two million bushels of corn, with potatoes, velvet beans, peas, syrup, hay, cattle and hogs in proportion. In other words, the farmers of Talladega county will make more real money this year than they have made during the total period of the past fifteen years.

Foreseeing the necessity of a market to take care of the surplus crops, the chamber of commerce of Talladega engaged an efficiency expert in the person of H. H. Thomas, of South Carolina, to organize and systematize the association. It has been put over and the products of Talladega county will be shipped in great quantities to the better markets, packed and standardized in merchantable shape.

Standardization was realized as a necessity to attract better prices, and when it was seen that the association meant business and would make business for independent concerns, corn shellers, graders and sackers were installed.

This will be followed by a stave manufacturer to provide barrels for sweet potato shipments, as well as other industries that offer good profits as a direct result of the association.

Agriculture – 1917
Food Shortage
The Freeman
9/7/17

THE FOOD PROBLEM.

In glancing over the numerous exchanges, Negro publications that reach this office, we are surprised at the absence of any downright interest in the food question. A few of these several hundred newspapers are excepted. They seemingly see the situation as the white papers do, and are urging the Colored people to do their utmost at increasing the food supply. The great bulk of the publications are not disturbed, meaning, of course, that their communities are not being aroused to the sense of their duty.

The white publications of the land are teeming with articles advising the planting of seed, urging the canning of fruit and vegetables, showing the need of household economy in order to meet and beat back the prevailing and prospective high prices of food stuffs.

Perhaps all localities do not see it alike, and yet there are no reasons why all are not similarly threatened. The present high cost of living is not confined to certain areas. And what it takes to meet it and reduce it is the same for every locality. The white people are aroused, alarmed, and they are much better financially prepared, as a whole, than our people. We are truly doing the cricket stunt, singing about everything but about that which concerns them most.

When the war will end no one knows. But wise people are taking no chances. In this city, Indianapolis, the garden and farm are the subject for morning, noon and night. A supervisor of gardens has been employed to oversee the work. Prominent citizens are in charge of committees that are doing all they can to show the people the importance of the move; and to show them what to do and how to do it. As a result this community is keenly alert to the situation, responding according to the advice. The people are planting and making preparations to put away surplus food for the winter months.

It is strange that we see no evidences of such activity in the race papers that reach this office. Talking about the white man's efficiency and our ability to cope with him. Here is an evidence of what he does just as he takes a ninety-nine year lease—to many of us a most absurd thing. If we can not understand such a fine-haired proceeding we can understand that food prices are abnormally high, and that we are in war, and that we are assisting our associates in war, and that we must help to feed them if the war continues. It is needless to say that all of this spells high prices, at least, until the war closes. And after that, for a time, when the people will be readjusting themselves to new conditions, there will be a scarcity of food supplies, or, high prices, which is the same so far as the people are concerned.

It is strange that Tuskeegee has not sounded a note of warning. It is generally foremost in such matters, and the Colored people are directly affected, since in the South they are largely agricultural. Dr. Moton, principal, in a recent speech before 2,000 people in his state, Alabama, (at Prattville, did refer to the matter, saying:

"Food is costing more now than at any time since the civil war, and if the war continues prices will go even higher than they are at present, due, of course, to the increased demand, not only from our country, but from friendly foreign countries which we are helping in this grave world struggle. I want to urge every man, woman and child to put forth every effort to help in this food crisis. Plant every foot of ground in some food crop for themselves, for their cattle and surplus for the market. There will be a great demand for these food crops next summer and fall, and unheard of prices will be paid."

The principal in part saves against the charge of indifference. Tuskegee flooded the country with pamphlets calling attention to Health Week. The move for lower priced foods is just as essential. As a center for the distribution of intelligences of this sort, one naturally expects something from that institution. We cannot imagine that it has changed its policy, nor is it necessary that it should be. Let us keep up with the procession, especially when it is of so vastly important that we should do so.

MONEY IN WEEDS FOR DIXIE FARMER

Constitution

Many Weeds Can Be Gathered and Sold on the Drug Market—Great Increase in Prices During Past Two Years.

4-22-17

Southern farmers are overlooking an opportunity to increase their income by not taking advantage of the high prices offered on the drug market for weeds and shrubs, many of which grow wild in this section, according to Dr. Joseph Jacobs.

"Home gardens are mighty good things for every family to have, and the greater food crops campaign should be encouraged, but there is a good way of increasing one's income that is being overlooked," said Dr. Jacobs. "There is a veritable gold mine that exists in the hills and dales of Georgia that one can easily work. There are many herbs, flowers and weeds that are common to this soil that the drug market is anxious to buy and prices have gone skyward.

"For instance," stated Dr. Jacobs, "there is the Jimson (Jamestown) weed, a plant as common in the south as the soil itself, and yet, one which offers good money for little trouble. The leaves of the weed and its seed are used in various ways in the manufacture of drugs, etc., and a ready market can be found at 35 cents per pound. When one discovers that two years ago this same product, requiring no cultivation, by the way, brought only 6 cents per pound, one can see the money in gathering the Jimson leaves and seed. Another thing is the mullein flower. This is in great demand and manufacturers now get $3 per pound for the leaves when properly treated where, two years ago, the price was 25 to 40 cents per pound.

"The fact that these things are of such value now and that so much money can be so easily made in them, should lead to another new opening up of the money-making opportunities of the state. The department of agriculture at Washington, D. C., has compiled numerous booklets on the treatment of these herbs and flowers, and the utilization of them as drugs, etc., and these instructions can be had for the asking. The processes are simple and are fully explained.

These are but representative plants and herbs of many, all of which are as well known and generally considered "worthless." To show the value of the products, Dr. Jacobs prepared the following table of comparative prices, which will prove his statement that much money is to be made from the herbs and plants commonly growing all about the southern farmers and which have heretofore been sadly neglected by him:

	Present Price. Per pound.	Price 1914.
Sweet gum (from tree)	$7.00	$1.50
Dandelion root	.35	.14
Horehound	.25	.10
Sage (common variety)	.60	.08—.12
Burdock	.20	.06
Yellow dock	.35	.08
Quince seed (now imported)	.80	.35
Peach kernels (oil)	.31	.18
Sassafras (oil distilled from roots)	.85	.35—.40
Oil of cedar leaf (distilled)	.75	.38
Oil of birch (known as artificial wintergreen)	2.35	.90
Peanut oil, per gallon	1.50	.75
Oil of pennyroyal, per pound	1.75	.85

Dr. Jacobs points out that aside from the horehound herb sage and the peanut oil, practically every other product mentioned grows wild and in profusion and needs only slight attention—this in properly curing, distilling and gathering. The fact that the department of agriculture provides the names and directs the means of cheaply and efficiently preparing the product for the drug market makes the work even lighter on the farmer or person living in the country where the product may be had practically for the picking.

Again, points out Dr. Jacobs, the demand for drugs and other such products to be had from these herbs and plants, due to the present war and the stringency which is likely to be felt in this country, adds just that much to the importance of realizing the worth of these things which are apparently now being overlooked.

"The boll weevil may ruin the cotton crop," declared Dr. Jacobs, "but if the farmer will only utilize the things which nature has placed so bountifully at his very hands, he won't have to worry about boll weevils, high cost of living or anything else.

"There are many drug manufacturing firms which will be only too glad to pay the best of prices for these products if the people will gather them, cure them properly, or distill them by a simple distilling process, and ship them to the manufacturing concerns.

"There is a great deal of money in it and there is no reason why the southern farmer should not reap the harvest."

ROBERTSON DENIES FARM INTERVIEW

Mayor Declares White Man of Alabama Best Friend of the Negro

NEW CROP FINANCE SYSTEM IS ADVISED

Believes Death of Advancing Will Mean Great Prosperity to Planters

Advertiser 4-16-17

W. T. Robertson, mayor of Montgomery, not only made vigorous denial of an interview attributed to him in which he was quoted as saying that the negro farmers of Alabama had been the victims of a systematic effort of the white people to take advantage of them, but declared emphatically that he had always believed the Southern white man has been and always will be the negro's best friend. The statement of the mayor was made yesterday following the publication in a Sunday morning paper of an interview on this subject purporting to come from Montgomery's chief official which was widely commented on throughout the day.

The mayor's statement follows:

"In the first place, I have given out no interview, and have had no engagement with a reporter on the subject mentioned. In the second place the alleged interview does not express my views or my statements.

Result of System.

"I had a personal conversation in the mayor's office about a week ago with a gentleman from Memphis, in which incidentially the subject of Southern farming conditions arose. I told him I believed there was plenty of money in Southern farming, and that the reason the average Southern farmer, (regardless of his race, white of black) did not possess more wealth was because of the business conditions under which he farmed, and not the fertility of the soil; that there was no better farming land than ours: that the trouble was that the farming business of the South was done on the credit or advancing system; and that much wealth was produced, it went, due to the system to the advancer and not to the producer. I did not claim that there was a systematical effort on the part of white people to take advantage of the negro.

"This was entirely foreign to the line of my argument. As a well-informed man, I know that the Southern white man has been the negro's best friend. What I had to say applied to all farmers, and was an argument designed to show that our soil would produce wealth, but that a change in business conditions was needed. The matter of race was not included.

"The change in farming business conditions is already upon us, and is an immeasurable blessing to the South generally, farmers, and others, for what benefits the farmer benefits us all. This is essentially a farming country.

Needs a Change.

"The South needs, and I tried to emphasize a change from the exclusive credit system. It needs farmers owning their own lands, intelligent white people where possible, raising their own feedstuffs, tilling their own acres, and not tied down with a burden of debt, for the things necessary for them to make a crop.

"Then the man who tills the South will, as a change of system, receive the benefit of his labor and his time and then the farmer of the South will revel in the prosperity that has already reached his brother of the west and the north.

The article in question puts an entirely different meaning upon a personal conversation, not intended for publication and which I was not informed was to be published, from the real intention thereof.

"Our land is rich, there is none more beautiful nor fertile and the ray of hope in the present trying conditions is that these conditions are to cause a new system of Southern farming."

PLANT DIXIE CROPS, NEGROES ARE URGED

Race Must Show Patriotism by Remaining in South and Raising Foodstuffs, Declares Dr. Morton.

Constitution 4-23-17

West Point, Ga., April 22.—(Special.) Dr. R. H. Moton, who succeeded Booker T. Washington as principal of Tuskegee institute, in a spirited address here this afternoon urged that every negro, man, woman or child, stand behind President Wilson and preserve the traditions of patriotism enjoyed by the colored race in America by remaining in the south and producing the largest possible crop of foodstuffs. Dr. Moton's speech was enthusiastically received by a large audience of whites and negroes. The address follows, in

part:

"I could talk to you for hours upon the many disadvantages under which we labor as a race and I could likewise point to a great many disadvantages which the white man faces, but this is no time for pining and moaning. It is for us and for you in Troup county to consider what we, as a people and as American citizens, can do here and now—what we ought to do right away.

"Many colored people have left this county and other sections of the south. Those of you who are left, what are you going to do? There are vast and undeveloped opportunities right here in Troup county which you may take advantage of, and my advice to you today is to look about you with the definite purpose of utilizing these advantages.

Demand for Food Crops.

"I find that this county is not only adapted to cotton raising, but is equally adapted to a bountiful production of all kinds of vegetables and food products. By staying here in your country and developing your own natural resources, you are not only going to benefit yourselves, but also the beautiful section of this state in which you reside. Food is costing more now than at any time since the civil war, and if the war continues, prices will go even higher than they are at present. I want to urge every man, woman and child to put forth every effort to help in this food crisis. Plant every foot of ground in some food crop for themselves, for their cattle and a surplus for the market. There will be a great demand for these food crops next summer and fall and unheard-of prices will be paid.

"On every hand we hear talk of patriotism and loyalty and conservation. All of these words mean nothing, but that every man, woman and child, white or black, throughout the country should stand together behind the president of the United States in facing the crisis of war. The crisis which we now face is one of the most serious in the history of the country, and because of that our patriotism should reach its highest level. We can show this patriotism by putting forth every effort, by vieing with each other to produce not only the fullest and most bountiful crops, but by contributing everything possible to the aid and support of the country. That is patriotism.

Should Stay in South.

"Notwithstanding the boll weevil and the disastrous floods of last year, this county has great possibilities for the colored people. The various industrial plants and factories which I see scattered over the city are offering employment to colored people at fair wages. In view of these conditions I want to urge you, if you can possibly do so, to stay here in the south and work out your problems. If you feel that you must leave, be sure you know where you are going and that you are going to better your condition. I know that some of those who have left the south have profited thereby. A great many others have not done so well. It, therefore, seems to be a very wise thing that none of you should subject your families to suffering by taking an unwise step in leaving your homes here in the south where there is so much work to be done, and where there is such a future for our people.

"My friends, you owe it to yourselves and to the negro race, which we all love and respect, and we also owe it to the white race and to our country as patriotic citizens to make every lick count by encouraging every member of the race to work systematically and faithfully to produce what we can and to save what we earn. During the past few months, I have told the people that the negro was loyal, that if necessary he would die willingly for the flag, and that under all circumstances and conditions brought on by war, no matter what test would be applied to him, he could be counted on to do his fullest duty. I believe I am right.

"In a crisis of this character, such as we are now experiencing, it is a wise thing for everyone to keep a level head. Let no outside pressure prevent any of us from doing our duty and let no gossip from irresponsible parties cause us to fail in a single duty to our state or to our nation. It is easy for a groundless rumor to be started and from it grow a feeling of unrest and uncertainty among our people, which will cause them much inconvenience and discomfort. I believe that in the present crisis, the best southern white sentiment is directed towards a feeling of friendly co-operation between them and the colored people. Under those circumstances, it is wise for all of us to keep in close touch with these good white people and go to them constantly for advice when matters arise in the community which tend to cause any uneasiness among our people."

ATTWELL ASKS FOR CO-OPERATION WITH ADMINISTRATION

Director Food Conservation Among Negroes Talks at Tuskegee

(Special To The Advertiser)

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Oct. 14—On Friday, October, 12th, there was an unique Food Exhibit at the Tuskegee Institute. The members of the faculty of the mechanical department of the institute who in spare hours have cultivated home gardens in order to meet the problems of advancing prices assembled, in a most interesting display the various products, such as they have raised, canned, dried and preserved.

35 Families Furnish Exhibits

More than 35 families were represented in the display and there were on exhibit about 138 different varieties of products including freshly gathered celery which is rather difficult to grow in this section, fresh tomatoes, water melons, white potatoes, navy beans, lettuce and the other more seasonable products such as collards, turnips, peas, velvet beans, etc. There also included, pigs, chickens, turkeys, pigeons, cows and horses all raised by Tuskegee's Mechanical work.

The booths containing the exhibits were tastefully decorated with flags and autumn foliage and the demonstration took place from seven till nine o'clock and during the evening music was dispensed by the Tuskegee Institute band.

Address by Attwell.

At 8:30 o'clock, the chairman of the exhibit, F. G. Manley, director of the supply division introduced the head of the department R. R. Taylor who in turn presented E. T. Attwell, business agent, who has recently been given charge of the work in the state among colored people under the United Food Administration. He made a very effective talk appealing directly to the people for cooperation with the food administration and telling his hearers the reason for this cooperation and what it meant to the people of the United States, to the nation, and to the allies. Director Attwell is receiving the cordial support of all the negroes in the state particularly in connection with the intensive campaign beginning October 28th. and running through to November 4th and which seeks to secure the signing of pledge cards and including every negro family as members of the United States Food administration.

ATLANTA CONSTITUTION STAR
JUNE 17, 1917

COLORED FARMERS ACTIVE

Conservation Enthusiasm Running High Among Colored People.

(By Geo. F. King).

Enthusiasm is running high among the better element of negroes in the rural districts of this county for better farming and the conservation of food. Although the campaign was begun among them after the white people of the county had been organized in most every section of the county, yet the colored farmers and wives are hard on the job.

Monday night at Acorn Branch the colored people of that section were addressed by Messrs. J. P. Herring and Morris, Dr. L. P. Davenport and the writer. The audience was intensely interested and the district was organized.

Wednesday night a large audience greeted the following speakers: Messrs. J. P. Herring, J. O. Brown, Dr. F. W. Avant, Prof. D. C. Virgo and the reporter. These speakers elicited a hearty response from the colored people who had come a number of miles to give impetus to the movement. They were desirous of contributing their share share to help their country and established a unique record for themselves by raising enough money at this, the first meeting of the kind held among them, to purchase a canning outfit.

Thursday night at Middle Sound another enthusiastic meeting was held by the colored people of that section and those present pledged the committee to cultivate corn, tomatoes, beans and other vegetables for canning purposes and not to allow, if they could prevent, one tomato to rot.

The leader of this district is Hezekiah Miller, a Hampton graduate. Associated with him in especially directing the activities of the organization in that district are these successful colored farmers: G. H. Loftin, Abel Robertson, Robert Lofton, William Nixon, Thomas Brown, Sandy Wallace, Shepard McClammy. Over $10 was raised at this meeting to procure a canning outfit. The motto of this particular district is: "East plenty wisely without waste."

Despite the storm a number of the representative colored farmers in school district No. 2, Myrtle Grove Sound, met in the Baptist church at this place last Friday night and held an inspiring meeting. The women were as much interested as the men. Archie Freeman, one of the splendid leaders of his people in that section, presided, and with the scribe stressed the necessity of following out to the letter the instruction sent them by the heads of the National and State governments.

A food conservation organization was perfected and an amount of money was raised for the purchase of a community canning outfit.

The farmers are profoundly determined to make the negro farmers conference and fair association a success. The Freeman brothers at Myrtle Grove Sound are particularly interested in the raising of live stock and this interest is becoming contagious among negro farmers in this county and adjacent counties.

FOOD ECONOMIES URGED BY HOOVER

Constitution
6852

Washington, June 7.—Herbert C. Hoover's report to the government on what the United States must do to sustain its allies with food, made public today, shows that the allies and a few neutrals which must be considered, require during the next year a billion bushels of cereals alone and that their needs of meat, fats and sugar also will be enormous.

Production in the allied countries and imports from other countries can meet only a portion of these needs; America must supply the remainder. America's surplus on the present scale of consumption will not meet the deficiency, Mr. Hoover says. The report closes with an appeal to the American people to assist the food administration in its efforts to increase production and to conserve American supplies.

Mr. Hoover, in outlining the situation abroad, says:

"The moral is clear; our consumption must be reduced. This can be done, first, by elimination of waste; second, by the substitution for the kinds of foods needed by the allies, of food not so needed, but which we can just as well use, as corn for wheat, poultry and eggs for red meat, and so on; third, by voluntarily restricting ourselves to a sufficient and sensible ration, which, rather than being hurtful, will be of advantage to us physically, and if done at a little sacrifice of preference of taste or inclination for a feeling of over-repletion, will be of advatnage to us morally."

NEGRO FARMERS TO HOLD FOOD CROP CONFERENCE

Increased Production of Crops and Emigration to North the Subjects.

Constitution

Plans to bring together the colored farmers of the state in a food conference to be held probably in Macon about May 25, began to take more definite shape Friday, following an exchange of telegrams between Commissioner of Agriculture J. J. Brown and Professor R. R. Wright, of the Georgia State Agricultural college (colored) at Savannah. The commissioner in a wire, has advised Professor Wright that Governor Harris has issued to him his commission with full authority to call the conference and to appoint delegates from various parts of the state.

"The proposal," declared Governor Harris Friday, "is one which is of much importance in the state right now. Through this conference it is our intention to get the negro farmers together and to impress on them chiefly two things: First, the fact that every space possible should be used for the production of foodstuffs, and second, the fact that emigration to the north or anywhere else is just what the negro farmer should not do."

The negro food conference will be presided over by Professor Wright, and the negro farmers will hear addresses from the leading food and farming experts of the state. Professor Wright has been actively at work in the interests of the conference for some time. He has made every effort to secure the co-operation of the state; in fact, the authorization of the conference, and now that this has been secured, he will make the necessary arrangements to hold the largest negro conference of the kind ever held in the south.

Dr. H. H. Proctor, a leading negro educator and pastor of Atlanta, has been working with Professor Wright in his efforts to bring the conference about. On last Sunday Dr. Proctor preached a sermon to his congregation on the food crop situation and urged that such a conference be held.

COLORED COOKS TO BE TAUGHT CANNING

NEW ORLEANS (LA.) STATES
AUGUST 11, 1917

Demonstration For Them Is Being Arranged By the Housewives' League

A canning demonstration to which women will be urged to send their colored cooks is being planned by the Housewives League, and probably will be held within the next few days The government's request to women to can or dry all foods possible is giving many of the housewives more than then can do. The demonstration is expected to teach the cooks the fine points about canning so they can relieve their mistresses of some of the canning work.

While it's a good idea to can all you can, says Herbert Hoover in a bulletin issued today, it's well also to "eat all you can't can." Foods that are not adapted to canning purposes should be eaten. Housewives should plan their menus so that they will be composed of foods that will not keep.

The Housewives' League gave a demonstration in bread making Friday afternoon, showing the use of rice, corn and cotton seed flour combined with from one-third to one-half of wheat flour, Mrs. Mark Boatner was in charge.

Bread of half wheat and half rice flour was made. Another loaf contained half wheat and half cottonseed flour. Rolls containing the same proportion of these products were made.

T SMITH ARK STHWST AMER
SEPTEMBER 2, 1917

NEGROES DO THEIR BIT.

The colored women's demonstration and food conservation club is doing its bit. Up to Saturday evening the club secretary had reported into the food conservation headquarters the names of 83 home-keepers among the colored club membership who had signed the cards pledging a meatless and a wheat breadless day each week.

Agriculture – 1917

Food Shortage

ECONOMY, THE WATCHWORD.

5/16/14

It is said that North Carolina imported during 1916 food stuff to the amount of $90,000,000. It cost at the rate of present prices about $175,000,000. What a lesson in economy is taught by these figures. Why not awaken from our pigheaded, unwise methods of supply and demand and count the fearful cost of our methods, and begin anew before too late. Is it not a time to begin to think, to operate on new lines? If these war conditions continue will not they teach us some wholesome lessons. Is it not unwise in the extreme to plant a large quantity of tobacco and even go to extreme in cotton when a world famine threatens the people of this bleeding world? We have said time and again that the door of opportunity has opened to our people. If the open door has invited us to better things and we refuse to enter in then it is ours to suffer and be defeated in spite of great opportunities. Let every one plant all the stable food stuff possible. The writer has about nine lots planted in such things as onions, peas, beans, potatoes, corn, tomatoes, cabbage. We have been using from our garden at least one month. We should all learn to economize, in time, food waste, in planning to meet the high price of living. While wheat is selling for September for about $1.84 and the glad news come to us that the great President and government will regulate the prices of food stuff, yet we should all assist in this work, by sowing and planting such things as will bring the prices down so the poorest may have the necessities of life. While the times are unparalleled in the difficult problems which confront the ordinary man, yet there are also unparalleled opportunities for making something, if the laboring class would learn to think a little more. It is so necessary to read the best in thought now on all public ques-

Incomplete

Agriculture — 1917
Food Shortage

FEDERAL ENLISTMENT OF BOYS FOR FARMS

GOVERNORS of practically all of the states have notified the national director of the United States Boys' Working Reserve of their intention to cooperate in its plan of mobilization of boys between the ages of 16 and 21 years this summer for work on the farms.

The Boys' Working Reserve is promoted by the United States Department of Labor as part of the general scheme of increased food production agreed upon by it and the Department of Agriculture. Under this agreement the Department of Labor was to find men and boys to fill the jobs on the farms and the Department of Agriculture was to find the jobs. The United States Employment Service is advertising for men, and is securing many thousands of them in various sections of the country. The Boys' Working Reserve is directed to the enlistment of as many as possible of the boys above 16 who are now idle. The Department of Labor estimates that there are 5,000,000 boys of from 15 to 21 years within the country and that 2,000,000 of them are doing nothing.

To be enrolled the boys within these ages must pass a physical examination, must have the consent of parents or guardians and must agree to obey the leader and camp superintendent furnished for each party. Each boy is to enroll for a period specified by himself, and in case he prefers other than farm work an attempt is to be made to find such work for him. Thus fruit and vegetable picking, canning and even shipbuilding may be supplied with boys.

The distinctive feature of the organization is its system of recognition of the boys' services after the normal industrial demands as to wages, hours and conditions shall have been met. To every boy will be given a bronze badge as a testimonial that he has performed at least one week's service. To the bottom of it will be attached a bar with the words "Honorable Service, 1917." Each successive year's work will be recognized by the addition of another bar.

The boys will be organized into squads of twenty-five, with a leader recruited from agricultural college, boys' club or other suitable source, who will direct their work and amusements and look after them in general.

In the time of harvest attempts will be made to get work for large numbers of boys, then on school vacation, under conditions permitting them to camp out.

The director of the Boys' Working Reserve states that it has been launched for four reasons:

1. So that there shall be available in time of need an adequate reserve of farm labor.
2. So that federal standards shall be stamped on local and state organizations which will assist in carrying out the scheme.
3. In order that, through the bestowal of a national badge, the boys may actually realize that they serve the national government.
4. So that all the state, county and local organizations may be coordinated in the work of classifying and distributing labor to the best advantage, both to the country and to the boy.

Thus far only a few thousands of boys have enrolled—these in the New England states and Oklahoma—but with the beginning of the school vacation period the organization hopes for a rapid development. Its industrial ideals are as yet hazy. It has no clear conception of its relation to organized labor Except that it is under federal supervision, it takes no positive stand on the questions of maximum hours or a minimum wage. Nor does its prospectus guarantee that the boys will not be employed at dangerous machinery. Indeed, the whole structure is experimental. Through the governors an agency is being secured in each state for handling the organization.

FARM LABOR CENSUS FOR GEORGIA HALTED

Federal Government and State Agricultural Agents Fail to Agree.

5-8-17

The federal government's plan for a farm labor census for Georgia and a subsequent effort at equitable distribution of farm labor throughout the state has apparently, for the time being, at least, gone upon the rocks.

The representative of the federal departments of labor and agriculture, who was recently sent to Georgia to supervise the census, which was to be taken through the state food council with the co-operation of the extension agents of the state college of agriculture and various employees of the state department of agriculture, has returned to Washington, alleging that he failed cially from the State College of Agriculture.

His principal complaint against the State College of Agriculture seems to have been that the authorities of the college declined to subordinate its census activities to the supervision of the representative of the federal government, but, on the other hand, desired that the federal government, through its representative, operate under the supervision of the college of agriculture.

When the federal agent made this report to Washington he was ordered to return to the national capital for a personal interview.

MT. MEIGS NEGROES ORGANIZE LEAGUE IN FOOD CAMPAIGN

Advertiser

Men's Canning Club Has Many Members at Work

5-22-17

The colored farmers of the Mt. Meigs neighborhood intend to do their part in producing foodstuffs, and with this end in view have just organized the Farmers' and Producers' League, with Ligon A. Wilson as president, Timothy Tharpe as secretary, and Georgia Washington as treasurer. Georgia Washington is principal of the Peoples' Village School, and has been a leader in the work for increasing the production of foodstuffs.

Ligon Wilson for some time has been boosting food crops among the members of his race, and with the organization of the producers' league is going into the work on a larger scale. Peanuts and corn have been planted in the place of cotton, at his suggestion and the yield of these two crops, he says, will be large.

Wilson also has been instrumental in organizing the Men's Canning Club in which the members are pledging money and labor in obtaining and operating a modern canning plant. Already there is much stock being canned and a large quantity is being marketed here in Montgomery.

"There will be no cotton planted in the Mt. Meigs neighborhood," said Wilson Monday, "but in its usual place will be corn, peas, beans, peanuts and other food crops. What we don't eat we will can, and our neighborhood will do its part in furnishing food for other sections of the state that are not so fortunate as to have lands for the growing of food crops."

Negroes of Marion Form Producers' League

(Special to The Advertiser.)

MARION, ALA., April 13.—The colored citizens of Marion and vicinity held a mass meeting at the Methodist Episcopal church last night for the purpose of forming a producers' league. A number of ringing patriotic speeches were made by leading members of the race and it was decided at the meeting that every member of the colored race should strive to assist the national government in every possible way during the present crisis. A food producers' league was formed with S. C. Walker as president and Richard H. Lee, county supervisor of colored schools, as secretary. The purpose of the league is to encourage the growing of food crops and to co-operate generally with the forces at work for the public good.

Montgomery Advertiser 4/14/17

EUROPE NEEDS GREAT AMOUNT OF FOODS

Advertiser

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, June 2—The grain requirements of the Allies and the European neutrals were put at 971,000,000 bushels, a total much greater than the United States can supply, in a statement by Herbert C. Hoover today, listing the minimum needs of each nation for human consumption and for feed.

6-3-17

County	Bread grains (bus)	Fodder grains bus
United Kgd'm	225,000,000	17,000,000
France	175,000,000	70,000,000
Italy	90,000,000	60,000,000
Belgium and Portugal	50,000,000	none
and ex European neutrals	15,000,000	116,000,000
Totals	555,000,000	416,000,000

"It will of course be impossible" said Mr. Hoover, "for North America to furnish this quantity although the major load must fall on us. In any event it emphasizes the necessity for control of exports in order to control prices and protect our supply, and the necessity for conservation and elimination of waste in order to increase the volume of our exports."

Mr. Hoover believes the United States and Canada can export this year at least 600,000,000 bushels of grain If the winter wheat crop improves and the spring crop is largor than normal he believes this may be increased to 800,000,000. Shipments of that much grain, much of it wheat how ever will force American consumers to eat less wheat that usual and eat more of other cereals.

Co-ordination of allied food purchases will be established as soon as the food bills and the export limitations act become laws. At present the allies and neutral countries are purchasing in large quantities for future delivery.

There is no guarantee that all these deliveries will be made, as this government may hold up contracts to assure of an adequate food supply at home. The food administration, as soon as it is created will begin to pass on these purchases to protect American consumers.

Mr. Hoover denied a report today that the food administration will buy the country's grain crop for distribution. There is no intention, he said of going into the grain business.

More than a dozen women home economic experts called on Mr. Hoover today to learn how they may assist in food conservation. Most of them are teachers of home economics in women's colleges.

Will Teach Canning To Colored People

KNOXVILLE TENN SENTINEL
AUGUST 4, 1917

The colored people of the city have their part to play in food conservation and a series of canning demonstrations are being arranged for them under the auspices of the council of defense, the first to occur Tuesday at 3 o'clock at the Boyd school.

Mrs. A. P. Lockett, vice-chairman of the Knox county council of defense is chairman of the committee arranging for the other canning and drying demonstrations to be given for the colored units.

All colored people in the city interested in canning are urged to attend the demonstration Tuesday which will be in charge of Mrs. W. L. Morris, assisted by Mesdames Tully Cornick, Edward Ogden, C. E. Wait, A. F. Sanford and Miss Mary Temple.

The white people of the city have now been thoroughly organized in council of defense units and it is now the purpose to organize the colored people of the city, and give them an equal opportunity to show their patriotism. At the meeting Tuesday arrangements will be made for other meetingsy and canning and drying demonstrations. The canning of corn and beans will be demonstrated Tuesday. The other meetings and demonstrations will be in charge of members of Mrs. Lockett's committee, who will also serve as volunteer demonstrators. These women in their laudable effort to interest the entire community in the work of food conservation will be assisted by Prof. W. E. Evans of the council of defense and his office force.

Members of Mrs. Lockett's committee are Mesdames W. F. Searle, Bello Morris, L. D. Tyson, John S. Brown, Harry Ijams, Marion J. Miller, R. W. McGranahan, Alex Bonnyman, J. D. Varnell, Edward Ogden, A. F. Sanford, T. R. Cornick, C. E. Wait, Miss Mabel Cain and Miss Mary Temple.

CONSERVATION OF FOOD IS TAUGHT TO NEGROES

TAMPA FLA. TRIBUNE
JUNE 22, 1917

DEMONSTRATION IS HELD BY A. A. TURNER

Anticipated Higher Prices Makes Subject One of Live Interest

Fifty or more colored men and women attended the canning demonstration given by A. A. Turner, of Tallahassee, manager-club agent in charge of Farm and Home Makers' Clubs in Florida working under direction of the University of Florida. Turner was permitted to fill this engagement by Prof. A. P. Spencer, assistant to Dr. P. H. Rolfs. The demonstration was held yesterday at the building occupied by the Tampa School of Household Arts.

This demonstration, which was regarded a success in every way, was

given under the management of B. A. Perkins, of the Tampa School of Household Arts, and W. M. House, a successful farmer.

The practical points on food conservation, explained and demonstrated by the manager-club agent, will make it possible for many to continue the work and be greatly benefited in the future.

Home Makers' Clubs were organized in which instance women in certain sections will volunteer their services to instruct clubs of five or more women. Cans and canners will be purchased by clubs, which will reduce the cost of the operation.

The methods involved were made so simple that these women mastered the art in one day.

Unusual interest was manifested in the demonstration, because of the prospects of higher prices for foodstuffs during the coming year, and many of the women who attended the demonstration yesterday will go home and conserve all the available fruits and vegetables for future use. The School of Household Arts will be headquarters for this work and persons desiring information along lines of food conservation will be furnished the same there.

Other than farmers of Hillsborough County and citizens of Tampa there were representatives of Polk and Manatee Counties who will carry the work back to their homes.

The hearty co-operation of Isabelle M. Story, home demonstration agent, in which she loaned her canning apparatus, was greatly appreciated.

Negro Farmers Meet Tomorrow to Study Feed Crop Situation

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE
SEPTEMBER 14, 1917

To consider plans for the r
of more winter pastur
up, in a measure, for
crop, and the study o
ing methods and the c
the food supply, the n
of Harris County will h
ing in the council cham
City Hall at 1 o'clock sha
day afternoon.

Mayor J. C. Hutcheson, Jr., w
welcome the negroes and addres
will be made by W. L. Stallings,
county demonstration agent and
manager of the agricultural depart-
ment of the Chamber of Commerce;
Prof. E. L. Blackshear, former pres-
ident of the Prairie View Industrial
and Normal Institute, and one of the
best known negroes of the state, and
Robert Quince, special farm demon-
strator for the negroes, under the
employ of the agricultural depart-
ment of the Chamber of Commerce.

The negro farmers of the county
demonstrated the fact that they are
really interested in better farmin
when they put $300 in a bank as
part of the salary of a demonstrato
this being the condition laid dow
to them by the Chamber of Co
merce before that body would co
sider the matter. There are a la
number of home owners and g
farmers among the negroes of his
county, especially in the north
portion.

BOSTON MASS CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR
SEPTEMBER 5, 1917

NEGROES FORM CANNING CLUBS

Special to The Christian Science Monitor from its Southern Bureau

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Thirteen Negro canning clubs of Birmingham will can 100,000 quarts of vegetables and fruits this season, and they are well on their way toward accomplishment of the task.

NEGRO LEADERS ON COUNTY FOOD DRIVE

Copiah and Hinds Will Be Covered in Educational Campaign.

JACKSON, MISS., NEWS
SEPTEMBER 23, 1917

A thorough campaign on the question of the conservation of foods among the negroes is being conducted by Principal Holtzclaw, of the Utica Institute, in the counties of Copiah and Hinds.

This campaign started on the 17th of September at Morning Star and will continue to the 27th.

This campaign is thorough in that it is going to the very heart of the farming territory, reaching the unreached farmer and arousing him to see the real necessity for conservig foods; improving his farms and surroundings; improving his living conditions in the most practical ways, by the simple method of industry and cleanliness

Principal Holtzclaw is having the assistance of Prof. Bura Hilbun, state superintendent of rural colored schools; M. M. Hubert, government farm demostrator among the negroes; Hon. A. A. McAlpine, county superintendent of Copiah; Perry W. Howard, Jackson attorney; C. H. Wilkes, county agricultural demonstrator of Hinds and Copiah counties.

This food drive has the added attraction of the Utica Institute Sextette, which has just returned from a four month's tour of the North, East and West, where it met with the most enthusiastic reception as the best quartette the South has ever sent North. As a result of this tour the Utica Institute has been the imediate beneficiary of contributions to the amount of $15,000.

MORE WORK OF IMPOSTER FOUND

LITTLE ROCK ARK GAZETTE
AUGUST 30, 1917

Eight Additional Negroes Report Having Destroyed Their Fruit.

Eight additional negro residents of East Washington avenue reported to police headquarters yesterday that they had been victimized by the unidentified imposter who visited the homes of many negroes, told them he was a federal inspector and ordered them to destroy all their canned fruit. In some cases the man destroyed the fruit himself when the negroes were unwilling to do so.

These eight negroes had no suspicion that the man was an imposter until they read the account of his malicious activities in the Argenta column of yesterday's Gazette. Then they at once hastened to police headquarters to make a report.

Police Chief Mara suspects that many more negroes have been victimized, but have not reported to headquarters. The police are at a loss to understand the man's object unless he is an I. W. W. member or a German agent. Chief Mara requests that any person who encounters this imposter telephone at once to police headquarters, Main 278.

NEW ORLEANS TIMES PICAYUNE
JULY 1, 1917

NEGROES TO BE INSTRUCTED.

Tangipahoa Food Commission to Make Labor Survey of Parish.

Amite City, La., June 30.—A. C. Lewis, parish superintendent of public education, announces that he has arranged with the State Department of Education for Miss Sellers, canning demonstrator, to instruct the negroes in Tangipahoa parish in canning surplus vegetables. Miss Sellers will hold meetings to this end at Roseland schoolhouse, Amite schoolhouse, Tangipahoa School, Kentwood School, Bladesfield School, Independence, Hammond School and Penn School.

The Tangipahoa food preparedness commission met here Friday and perfected plans to make a complete labor survey of the parish as recently directed by the government. This work will begin Monday and will be completed August 1. The committee to make the canvass is composed of H. P. McClendon, A. C. Lewis, W. E. Mount, H. F. Cassell, D. E. Vernon, L. H. Bowden, Angello Danna, Miss Lois Chapin, Mrs. C. C. Carpenter, H. P. Mitchell, Joe Graziano and Miss Lettie Ensign.

The Union Berry and Truck Association met in annual session this week and elected the following officers: Thomas Cefalu, president; Dan Moock, secretary-treasurer; John Girgente, vice-president; directors, Vincent Campo, Louis Ruffino, Sam Magliolo and Jack Cottonoloto. The financial report showed the most successful season in the history of the organization.

The finance committee of the Tangipahoa parish school board has submitted a budget for the coming school year which was adopted by the board. The House school near Ponchatoula begins its 1917-18 session Monday. The Independence High School also opens Monday. T. B. Pugh is principal.

Mays Lewis, son of A. R. Lewis, of this place, and nephew of Colonel Thomas Lewis, U. S. A., graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis Thursday and will go immediately into active naval service with the commission of an ensign. His younger brother, Thomas, will enter the Naval Academy in September. Dr. Alfred Lewis, another brother, is on the way to France with the United States medical corps. Raleigh Lewis, the younger brother, will enter the officers' training camp at Fort Logan H. Roots in August.

Dr. F. N. Murphy, of this city, will enter the United States service as soon as his commission as lieutenant of the dentistry corps can be issued.

Mrs. McKenny, president of the Louisiana W. C. T. U., delivered a number of lectures throughout this parish this week.

HOBBIE MAKES STATEMENT TO HELP HOUSEWIVES

Many women in the state have said recently, 'I am perfectly willing to help in the food conservation, I really want to help, but I do not know just what to do."

10-28-17

They all realize that they must use less meat, and most families are substituting other foods for meats, but that is not half the battle.

Hobbie Makes Statement.

In response to the inquiry from various women, Richard M. Hobbie, State Food Administrator gave out the following information Saturday which came direct from the National Food Administrator:

As a sort of resume a working program is suggested. Mr. Hobbie asks that every housewife in Alabama paste these suggestions on a card board and place them in the kitchen.

Save all foods left from general table service. Serve as soup, salad, stews, or scalloped dishes. Saving on waste may help pay the war debt.

Save through serving smaller rolls, muffins, cuts of butter and meat, thus allowing each person to ask for second helping. Save by using all you produce and all you can purchase, to the best advantage.

Save through the use of little used portions of foods. Save through using the food stuffs that are most abundant.

Sere fewer courses and fewer dishes at a meal. Persuade your family to eat food prepared in new ways, and to eat new and unfamiliar dishes.

Save through learning food values.

Save through intelligent planning of meals, wise selection of food; careful handling and storage; skillful preparation good cooking; the gospel of the clean plate, and the use of left overs.

Will Urge Negro Women to Register On July 10 and 11

NEWPORT NEWS VA HERALD
JUNE 30, 1917

The Negro Organization Society of Virginia, throngh its president, Allen W. Washington of Hampton Institute, and other leaders, will co-operate with the Virginia division of the Woman's Committee of the National Council of Defense, in carrying out Herbert Hoover's plan to secure a complete registration on July 10 and 11, of all women for the conservation of Virginia's food supply.

Lizzie A. Jenkins, of Hampton, Institute, state secretary for colored women, will send for the society a general letter on food conservation to the heads of families and other community leaders living in districts of 5,000 population and under.

The Negro Organization society will organize committees and subcommittees to carry the nation's message to those who purchase and use food, members of agricultural committees of safety, several thousand colored ministers, and thousands of home makers.

Registration cards secured from the colored people will be sent to Ella G. Agnew, chairman of the food conservation committee, Richmond, and will then be forwarded to Mr. Hoover.

WHEELING W VA INTELL

Colored Mass Meeting In Market Auditorium

For Purpose of Interesting Negroes In New Agricultural Activities of State.

A mass meeting will be held Sunday afternoon at three o'clock at the Market auditorium, for the colored citizens of Wheeling, the subject of which will be to interest them in agriculture. The meeting will be in accordance with the latest movement to utilize every foot of ground possible in the state of West Virginia for the purpose of agriculture.

Hon. James H. Stewart, commisioner of the state department of agriculture, Congressman Edward Cooper of the Fifth district, and R. W. White will be the prinicpal speakers of the occasion. The Lincoln High School Glee club will render several selections, and all colored people of Wheeling are urged to attend the meeting.

Also in connection with the conservation of land movement, a caning and preserving demonstration will be held in the home economics department of the Lincoln school this afternoon, which will be under the charge of an agent from the state department of agriculture. All interested are extended a cordial invitation to attend the demonstration.

Agriculture — 1917

Conditions and Improvement of

Labor Shortage Must Be Met With Tractors

A tight little island about the size of Alabama and Georgia was cut off apparently from overseas supplies. It was a panicky moment. Bread lines were growing into great lanes of hungry people. For the first time in centuries the tight little isle faced the responsibility of producing a large part of the food for its own population. Popular feeling was aroused from a usually stubborn public mind. If means could be announced to surmount this problem the morale of the people could be sustained.

Solution Found

The answer was found. Across fragrant meadows could be heard the sharp bark of Motors. Great castles connecting in broad estates frowned down upon historic scenes. Wide sweeping downs, carefully tended parks and lawns were rippling into long brown ribbons of overturned sod. The same sharp bark re-echoed through the ancient halls from dungeon to tower. The moving machines looked vaguely familiar. Yes, they are American made tractors—the answer of John Bull to Germany's submarine peril.

U-Boats A Blessing

Englishmen say the U-boat campaign was a blessing in disguise. England is finding herself, agriculturally speaking So is France and Russia.

We come to the great factor—Time. It "waits for no man." In the farm cycle it is restricted by the seasons of crop growth and maturity. Today the high officials in the war councils are looking as gravely at the maps of the farm fields as they are at the maps of the battlefields. That brings us to our own problem.

The past year has seen our storehouses of farm produce dwindle rapidly. Prices have skyrocketed. While the wolves have been howling at the doors of Europe, they have not let us entirely alone.

Must Feed The World

Upon our shoulders have come other burdens. As our part in the war we are first called upon to feed almost the entire civilized world. It is a staggering problem for the time limit remains stationary. Nature will not extend her seasons of production.

We must not only grow greater crops this year, but we must increase our production next year and the year after. What's the use of fighting the submarine from the seas, of building up a great fleet of cargo ships if we haven't anything to ship?

Labor And Power

The successful solution of farm production depends upon two elements, Labor and Power. Labor is scarce. It is bound to be scarcer. Millions of men are being called to the colors. Present farm power is inadequate for the job. In normal times the horse and mule might stumble through and do a halfway job of farming. But today it's a medieval applied to a modern emergency. But we cannot even grant a full quota of horse and mule power. Thousands have already been exported to Europe. The United States will demand thousands more for war purposes. We face the same problem that England and France and Russia faced. We can help solve it in the same way they did. We do not have to go overseas for the means to win. We have it here at home in the tractor. For with the tractor properly used you can hush the cry fo Labor and Power.

BIRMINGHAM AGE-HERALD

DECEMBER 7, 1917

Farming Is Profitable

One negro farmer in Covington county, near Andalusia, operated a two-horse farm this year and the Star says that he raised $4350 worth of produce. It doesn't tell the cost and profit, but says that he raised $1650 of cotton, $1350 of peanuts, $1000 of corn and $350 of cotton seed. Presumably he made $100 a month profit, and unless he managed badly he got more than that.

A Jefferson county man who gave up a public office to become a truck farmer, when asked about his business th's year, said:

"I have done well. I made good crops and sold all I made." That is taken to mean that he has made money.

This has been a farmer's year, and wherever one has been willing to tell, the story is the same.

A farmer, not a trucker, a few miles east of this city, admits that he has "lived and taken in $1500" by the old fashioned method of farming. He admitted also that land that he paid $100 an acre for a few years ago is now worth $300.

No business except munition making has profited so much by the war as farming.

BROOKLYN N[illegible] HOME TAI

[illegible] 26, 1917

THE NEGRO FARMER.

As the negro farmers' contribution to the country's preparedness, we have urged, helped and encouraged them to grow all possible food and food stuffs for themselves and stock, with some to spare. They have responded and are more interested in the production of such crops than ever before. In 1907 farm demonstration work began in Virginia under the supervision of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, with one agent working in one county with about 300 farmers. Today there are eighteen agents working in twenty-two counties with about 5,000 farmers. According to the 1910 census, these twenty-two counties have 16,312 negro farmers, and I estimate that 10,000 of these farmers are now being influenced directly and indirectly to practice better farming and a higher standard of living. Last year 864 meetings were held with an attendance of about 35,000. The average yield of corn when the work began was about fifteen bushels per acre. Last year it was thirty-three bushels in the territory worked. Some of the yields were as high as seventy-five and ninety bushels per acre. One farmer in Isle of Wight County during 1915 following poor preparation of soil, cultivation of crop and using $105 worth of commercial fertilizer produced only 340 bushels of corn on thirty acres. Last year he followed under the agent's direction good preparation of soil, cultivation of crop and used no commercial fertilizer, and produced 780 bushels on thirty acres, a difference of 240 bushels plus $105 not spent for fertilizer. The land both years was of the same grade and fertility. Last year one farmer in Charles City County raised on two and one-half acres 146 bushels of corn. His profit was $113.30. This was said to be the best yield in his section. In Amelia County, 900 bushels of corn were produced at 48 cents per bushel.

When the work began very little hay was grown. Cover crops were almost unknown. The farmers relied almost wholly upon the fodder for rough feed. Last year about 1,200 farmers grew hay and fodder crops on more than 4,000 acres of land with an average yield of two tons per acre. Three farmers harvested as high as 6¾ tons of alfalfa per acre. One farmer planted 300 bushels of cowpeas. The hay and cover crops consisted of mixed grasses, clovers, cowpeas, soy beans and even alfalfa. In 1907 most of the farmers relied upon their money crops, such as tobacco, peanuts and cotton for supplying their food and feed. To-day about 3,000 of these farmers are raising practically all of their home supplies, and a larger number are given more attention to truck crops, such as sweet and white potatoes, navy beans, cornfield beans, cowpeas, cabbages, turnips, watermelons, cantaloupes, pumpkins and even assisting their wives in having home gardens.

The following are some of the results in truck crops for last year: Some of the farmers in one county made an average yield of 203 bushels of sweet potatoes per acre, the highest being 266 bushels. In another county one farmer produced on 1¼ acres 210 bushels of white potatoes. In another county one farmer's wheat crop was short. He planted cowpeas after the wheat, sold $58 worth of green peas and bought 3 barrels of flour with part of the money. About 500 farmers grew sorghum for syrup and 32 of them made 2,610 gallons. One farmer in another county planted one acre to white potatoes, followed by corn with white beans dropped with corn. He got the following results: Potatoes, 88 bushels; corn, 50 bushels; beans, 1¼ bushels. His total receipts from these crops were $251.50; expenses $89.16, leaving a profit of $162.34 from one acre.

Over 200 home orchards of about 18,000 trees were pruned, wormed and otherwise cared for last year Some of the results were seen in better shaped trees, check in disease and insect pests, larger and better tasting fruit, and some trees bearing fruit that had never borne any before.

In the beginning no work was undertaken for the boys. Last year 284 boys grew corn, peanuts, potatoes, pigs, cowpeas and vegetables. In one county eight boys in corn averaged forty-three bushels, the highest yield being 52.9 bushels. Three boys, in peanuts, averaged 42.1 bushels. The corn yield was more than double that for the county. In some instances the success of the son has changed the father from poor to good methods of farming. Live stock are today receiving attention on the part of these farmers as never before along the lines of feeding, housing, breeding and appreciation of their value on the farm.

In poultry each family will average over seventy-five birds the year round, some raising from 300 to 500 a year. The family cow is being understood as a milk and butter [illegible] that will readily respond to proper care and breeding More and better horsepower hooked to improved implements is teaching these farmers that farm operations can be done more effectively with much of the drudgery removed. Hogs are being regarded as a money crop, more to be desired than tobacco and even cotton, for some of these farmers have learned, and others are learning, how to raise hogs at a good profit. Among the pure bred and registered live stock purchased by the farmers for breeding purposes, twelve cockerels, twenty-one bull calves, twelve boars and six sows have been secured from Hampton Institute. Last year one farmer starting with fifteen shoats raised them on alfalfa, red clover, rape, cowpeas and corn at a total cost of $244.30. The sale of these hogs brought $460 50, leaving a profit of $216.20. About 200 farmers raised over 3,000 hogs on grazing crops. About 17,000 pounds of this pork were produced at an average cost of 4¼ cents per pound.

In 1907 the farmers were not organized. To-day there are 135 community clubs and sixteen county advisory committees in the twenty-two counties. The object of these organizations is to encourage co-operative work among the farmers. Four of these clubs purchased $1,404 worth of fertilizers and saved $216; 2,234 tons of lime were bought co-operatively at a saving of $251.60. Over 300 farmers opened bank accounts and 448 increased their bank accounts. In one community hog cholera broke out. Twenty infected hogs were treated. Seventeen of the twenty were saved and over 600 hogs were protected from the spread of the disease by community co-operation. Through these clubs neat one and two room schools have been built, churches remodeled and painted, whole communities whitewashed, clean-up week, campaigns carried out, health talks made and bulletins distributed. The health work was done in co-operation with the Negro Organization Society of Virginia. When work first started no aid was given from the county funds. Last year over $1,500 were appropriated toward the work.

Farmers of Georgia Pleased With Cattle Received From Texas

Constitution

All of the Texas cattle, numbering 1,779 head, recently purchased by the Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic railway for Georgia and Alabama farms, have been delivered. Everyone who purchased some of these cattle is highly pleased, in fact, practically every one who has received some of these high-grade Texas cows and heifers will duplicate their original orders.

The cattle which have been purchased comes from the "range" in the drouth area in the so-called tick territory, and are "tick immune." These cattle are very thin, but in good enough flesh to stand shipment. Advices just received from Fort Worth indicate that the stockyards are crowded with excellent cattle, with few buyers. The prices range from 6½ to 9c per pound.

The Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic railway, feeling this is such an excellent opportunity to purchase high-grade breeding herds at bargain counter prices, is urging farmers and business men to go to Texas to purchase some of these cattle, and is arranging for W. R. Tucker, its agricultural field agent, to make another trip to Fort Worth at an early date to assist in selecting desirable stuff. All interested are advised to communicate at once with Mr. Tucker, at Fitzgerald, or W. W. Croxton, general passenger agent, Atlanta, Ga.

From ..... Galveston, Tex. News

Address: .....

Date .....

SIMPLIFIED PROSPERITY.

Idabel (Ok.) Gazette: J. H. Johnson's wife, of Shawneetown, is setting an example that would pay other colored people to notice. Since Dec. 1, 1916, she has sold 198 pounds of butter at 30c per pound, and fifty-three dozen eggs. She now comes to town in a new Ford car that she has bought out of her produce and milk and butter business. She has bought a lot in Tulsa and has it very nearly paid out by her own labor. She finds ready sale for her milk and butter with white folks. Any negro can do as well if he or she will only apply energy and neatness, as does J. H. Johnson's wife. She was here Thursday and sold $3 worth of turnip greens.

Isn't it easy? All any person has to do these times in order to prosper is to raise enough foodstuff for his own consumption and then some to sell. There is every reason to believe that the family of J. H. Johnson, colored, of Shawneetown, lives bountifully on the best of vegetables, milk, butter and poultry. In addition to living well at table, that colored family rides in an automobile and is accumulating property. Of course this energetic and intelligent colored woman does not enjoy special advantages of location. She lives in a sparsely populated neighborhood, distant from any large city. She must sell her produce in small quantities, and mostly to people who have the same or better chances to raise their own. Yet she succeeds, while tens of thousands of others fail—while every large city in the land is crowded with white families, native and foreign, which complain bitterly of the high cost of living and the low returns of labor. There is no denying it—economic conditions in America are top-heavy. There are too many people living in town, struggling to maintain an existence in steam laundered collars, and too many people in the country struggling to reduce farming to a one-crop system, which demands less labor and less thinking than the kind J. H. Johnson's wife carries on. Many town people ought to move to the country, and many country people ought to learn how to live independent of grocery stores. Those who have only the labor of their hands to sustain them are going always to suffer unless they become real producers. And they can believe it or let it alone!

From ..... TELEGRAPH

Address: ..... Macon, Ga.

Date ..... MAR 16 1917

NEGROES RAISING LIVE STOCK

ALBANY, March 15.—Indicative of the large increase in live stock being raised by negro farmers of this section, due to the advent of the boll weevil, are the tax returns now being made. Negro farmers, who returned one or two hogs each last year, are returning many times that number this year, and many who made no returns on live stock last year are now making returns of one or more hogs.

From .....

Address: ..... Nashville, Tenn.

Date ..... JAN 31 1917

NEGRO NORMAL WINS CORN CONTEST PRIZE

Receives Loving Cup In Competition With Many Colored Institutions.

Indicative of the work, both in theory and practice, that is being done at the Agricultural and Industrial State Normal for Negroes, the institution has just been awarded the first prize and a handsome loving cup in a corn contest that was held at Tuskegee Institute, the famous industrial school which was founded by Booker T. Washington.

This announcement has just been made public by the president of the Tennessee colored state school, Prof. William J. Hale, who received notice of the success of the local institution in the contest through a communication from the director of the department of agriculture at Tuskegee.

The annual farmers' conference and agricultural exhibition at the noted Alabama institution is one of the most largely attended and patronized movements of its kind in this country. Many of the best schools take part in the exhibit each year and demonstration agents and agricultural experiment stations are represented from many sections. Some of the nation's most progressive negro farmers also enter these contests. The work was begun by the late Booker T. Washington, who had made the movement nation-wide in its scope.

Early in the history of the Tennessee normal for the colored, which is the youngest school of its kind, North or South, the students developed special aptitude and fondness for the work which had been mapped out for them along agricultural and industrial lines. The school has won signal praise each year for its success in all of its departments, and long since has been regarded as one of the very best institutions of the kind operated by any state. Much of the credit for this record of achievement is given to President Hale.

The summer session at the local school each year is the most largely attended of any similar institution in the country for negroes, and for several years its various other activities have stamped the normal as being one of the most useful and constructive educational institutions for the negro race.

From .....

Address: ..... Nashville, Tenn.

Date ..... JAN 28 1917

News of Ir

Nashville, Tennessean

1-28-17

By S. WELLINGTON BERRY.

The Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School for Negroes has been awarded the first prize and a handsome loving cup in a corn-growing contest conducted in connection with the annual farmers' conference and agricultural exhibition held at Tuskegee institute, the noted industrial school founded by the late Booker T. Washington.

The contest is nation-wide in scope, and many of the best known industrial schools of the country, as well as demonstration agents, and the most progressive negro farmers are patrons of the movement to increase the efficiency of the negro race along agricultural and industrial lines.

The success of the Tennessee institution in winning the first prize in the corn-growing contest is considered a distinct compliment to the school, and its president, faculty and entire student body, it is urged, have reason to feel exceedingly proud of the record that has been made.

It has been pointed out that early in the history of the Tennessee normal school for the colored, which is the youngest of the state industrial schools, north or south, the students developed a special aptitude and fondness for the work which had been mapped out for them by the Tennessee state board of education. The school has developed rapidly and highly satisfactory to the educational authorities of the state, and every report made of the negro institution has been very commendable to its president and his faculty. The president, W. J. Hale, has had remarkable success in putting the school on the highest possible basis.

There has been provided by the state a summer school for negro teachers at the colored normal each year, and this is the most largely attended of any similar school in the country, and the work accomplished has been of increasing importance to the colored teachers. The school has been doing an extension work throughout the rural districts of Tennessee, which is highly beneficial to negro farmers and their families.

The students at the school each year raise their own produce, and there is left a large quantity of farm products of all kinds to be marketed, the proceeds reverting to the school. A handsome dairy barn was constructed by the mechanical department at the institution last year, and many other improvements made with skilled student labor. For several years because of the varied activities carried on at the negro state normal it has been regarded as one of the most useful and constructive educational institutions for negroes in this country.

It is needless to state that Tennessee is greatly pleased with the record the negro school has made, and especially are the educational authorities of the state satisfied with the manner in which the colored people themselves have supported and appreciated the institution.

235 CHICAGO. BREEDER'S GA

JULY 5, 1917

Negro County Agents in Mississippi.

In your issue of March 8 is an editorial under the headline "Up from Slavery." It states as a matter of news that a negro extension worker has been appointed in Kansas, and this statement was followed by comment of a very favorable nature which gave the impression that this was an innovation in extension work.

I am glad to note that Kansas is following the example of Mississippi. We have had negro extension agents employed by the Department of Agriculture and our state agricultural college, cooperating, for several years. At this time we have seven such men—six local negro demonstration agents in as many localities in Mississippi and one general agent, who has direct supervision of the local men. Our negro supervisory agent, M. M. Hubert, Jackson, Miss., is paid entirely by federal and state funds, while the six local agents are paid partly by the same funds and partly by the communities in which they are working. In some cases the major portion of this local aid is paid by white citizens.

So far, the results of this work has been very gratifying. I have just authorized Mr. Hubert to place three more men in the field beginning July 1 on the same basis. Doubtless it will be interesting to know what the south is doing for her negroes.

Mississippi Agricultural College. R. S. WILSON.

Agriculture - 1917
Conditions and Improvement of

What Tenant Should Do, What Landlord Should Do to Make a Real Success This Year

By Robert S. Parker, County Agent, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Chambers Countu. Ala.

Advertiser 3-11-17

At this time we must all work together and I am giving here to the tenant farmer and to the landlord an outline of the things to be done to bring success to both. We have learned these things from practice rather than theory and so they may be relied on.

To The Tenant Farmer.

To the tenant farmer I want to give ten sure lines to success. They have never failed where followed.

1. Plant velvet beans in all your corn and you will make more corn than if you did not have the beans there and 1-2 to 1 ton of beans depending on the land. A peck of seed will plant an acre. Cost $1.50 per bus.

2. Easier to pick 500 lbs beans per day than 200 lbs cotton.

3. They will not sting but little if any if you wait till after fost to pick them.

4. The merchants and the feed mills will take your beans and pay you cash for them as quick as they would for cotton seed, if your beans are dry. The price will run from $18 to $20 per ton and all they will cost you will be for seed and picking, as the same work that made your corn will make the beans. You can start to feeding the green beans as they form to all your stock. They will fatten your hogs with 1-4 as much corn as it would take without them.

5. They will take the place of 1-2 the corn it takes to feed your work stock.

6 You will not have to buy any more meal and hulls for your cows. The beans from one acre of good land or two acres of very poor land will feed your milk cow as long as 1,000 lls. of the best cottonseed meal would fed her. You can leave the beans in the field and turn in or stake your cattle out in them and they will fatten on them all winter and give more milk than you get in the best pasture month.

7. After you grow a good crop of beans on a field you don't have to buy any fertilizer except acid phosphate for that field the next year. Cut out the meal and the nitrate of soda by growing beans and save that money. You can find a use for it for something else you want. The Alabama Experiment Station made 660 lbs. more seed cotton planted after velvet beans than planted after cotton.

8. Plant velvet beans and make the land rich. If you always farm poor land you will always be a poor man. You can't make much cotton at best when you have to plow it every week till it begins to open and pick up squares every week too. You will not make a bale to the plow if you don.t

9. Stop moving about so much. Find a landlord who will sign up to give you the privilege of renewal for 5 to 10 years, so long as you pay the rent and stay with him until you are ready to buy land. Grow next year's fertilizer by planting beans and then don't move off and leave it. You don't have to stay in the renting class if you don't want to. Put 15 acres in beans and the beans will sell for enough to buy you 15 acres of land.

10. Get ready this year to do without credit. It's your last chance. No man can get supplies another year unless he has plenty of corn, meat and all home supplies, and he will get mighty little credit then. Velvet beans are the poor man's friend. Put your faith in them and they will put you where you can buy you a good place of your own. Use the velvet bean right and it will help you more than the boll weevil can ever hurt you.

To The Landlord.

To the landlord and the land owner the following program will bring the best results in a year when we must all do our utmost to beat the boll weevil:

Encourage the tenant farmer. It is as much to your interest as it is to his that he stop moving so much and set to work to build up the land.

If you can get him to plant velvet beans extensively it will be greatly to your interest, for there is nothing that will make the alnd rich so fast. It will tend to hold your tenant in one place for he will not want to move away from the immense amount of fertility he has stored in your soil for next year's crop.

Furnish all tenant with seed beans-it takes only a peck per acre, and see that they are planted Plant alternate hills in beans and corn, 4 1-2 ft. rows on every poor land. Plant alternate rows, cotton width, in fair land, beans 8 to 10 inches in drill, corn as if no beans were on the land. Poor land will make 1,000 lbs., good land 1 ton beans per acre, The beans will add 200 lbs. nitrogen per acre to the soil, while a heavy crop oc peas only adds 100 lbs, pounds per acre.

Agree to take part of the rent in dry beans or to buy the beans at a fixed price. Your merchant will buy them. See him now about it. It will pay your to feed them up yourself. Grind ear corn and beans together, half and half and you have a mixed feed of higher feeding value than the mixed feed now sold at $40 per tton. Paying your tenant $20 per ton will leave you a very handsome profit, give him a better return for his labor than cotton will, and make your land rich.

The boll weevil fight in a nutshell is:—

1. Well prepard land, warmed up with a harrow before planting.

2. Heavily fertilized with acid phosphate to insure early fruiting.

3. Planted as soon os warm enough to insure germination and rapid growth, with early variety; cultivated every week till it begins to open.

4. Weevils picked off the young cotton every week from chopping till squaring time, then all yellow and fallen squares picked from ground and cotton and burned, every week till July, 15.

5. Pick early, and kill the stalks as long before frost as possible. Plow them under if you can. If not, plow them up. Don't burn, Early killing of the statlks is the most important step of all. But you say all this is too much trouble and expense. But its the only way you can make cotton.

Permanent Prosperity

Every farm must carry more livestock. You have the choice of beef, cream or hog production. Make the land rich with velvet beans, peanuts bur clover, lespedeza, bermuda and johnson grass or sudan. Put your faith in these. They are cheap feed, and cheap feed and close attention make success certain. Market these in cow or pig hides or the cream can.

Get rid of the tick so we can get the high prices and stop losses.

Use only purebred bulls and boars.

Put the waste landy in grass, not pine brush. I have done all these things. I know how. You can beat me raising cotton but, I have handled stock and raised feed for them all my life.

Permanent prosperity without livestock to keep up the fertility of the land is impossible. It cannot be found anywhere on earth. Make a start now. Don't go into it, grow into it.

Alabama Production Estimate for Year Is 505,-

All no dates
Advertiser Dec. 8, 1917.

(Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Reduction of more than a million bales in the cotton crop of the country from the last estimate made was shown in the final estimate of production issued today by the Department of Agriculture.

Cotton production this year is estimated at 10,949,000 equivalent 500-pound bales, the Department of Agriculture today in its final report. The average weight per running bales is estimated at 501.5 pounds gross.

Killing Frost.

A killing frost before the middle of October, several weeks earlier than usual, was the cause of the million bale decrease from the October estimate when the department forecast a crop of 12,047,000 bales.

"This frost caught far more than the average immature bolls," a summary of the report by the department announced, 'doing damage amounting to approximately a million bales, and lowering the grades on much more of the crop.

Clear Weather.

"Fortunately the killing frost was followed by clear weather, and many of the frost bitten bolls popped open sufficiently to be gathered. But there were left many immature bolls which were not sufficiently large to open.

"In northern Texas, Oklahoma and in parts of Arkansas, Missouri and Tennessee, these bolls are being more or less gathered, and will add materially to the yield in those sections with the ginning machinery prepared to handle them. But in other states few of the immature bolls will be gathered, as there is little machinery installed for handling them."

Production by States.

Production by states follows:

Virginia	16,000
North Carolina	570,000
South Carolina	1,235,000
Georgia	1,820,000
Florida	40,000
Alabama	505,000
Mississippi	895,000
Louisiana	615,000
Texas	3,115,000
Arkansas	895,000
Tennessee	206,000
Missouri	51,000
Oklahoma	890,000
California	67,000
All other states	29,000

While there has been an increase in business Mr. Bell said, the increased cost, due to the war time prices obtained in all lines, practically absorbed the earnings of the company.

"Increases in wages of $500 a month have been granted Montgomrey employes of the company," Mr. Bell said as a example," and the money for this advance is coming from the stock holders." Mr. Bell explained that this money was paid by reducing dividends and did not come from money derived from extra business.

The statement made that the company since 1896 with an investment between one and two million dollars had declared dividends of one million dollars a year was declared misleading by Mr. Bell.

In 1907 Mr. Bell said the rates were reduced by the interstate commerce commission and now the company is only asking for part of this old rate back.

Increased cost of doing business is said to amount to 40 per cent said he

Mr. Caskie says that a strong effort is being made by representatives of shippers and receivers of the South to have the Commission deny the Southern Express Company any advances at all. "It is the position of the Southern shippers," he says "that if the express companies operat-ing in the congested districts in the East and north are in need of additional revenue to enable them to satisfactorily serve the public, they should have such relief as may be necssary but that in giving them this assistance there is no justification, at the same time, of allowing the Southern Express Company advance which their report show they are not entitled to at all."

Friday, in Washington, the Commission heard the testimony of the express companies, at which time their financial condition was thoroughly gone into and the causes which led them to ask for the increases in express rates. The Commission decided not to hear at that time the testimony of the shippers and receivers, and set Monday, December 17, for the taking of the latter.

Montgomery, Atlanta, Columbus, Nashville, Tampa, the Railroad commission of Georgia and that of Florida Mr. Caskie states were represented at the meeting.

HOG LEATHER BECOMES LIVE TALK TOPIC

Theory of Emmett Jones Calls Forth Much Interested Comment on His Suggestion

Advertiser

SUCH LEATHER HAS MANY GOOD USES

12-30-16

Commissioner James A. Wade Writes Mr. Jones Caustic Call Down For His Statement

"Why is hogskin leather, and what is it good for?"

That question became a popular greeting during Friday, following the publication in The Advertiser of the statement of Emmett A. Jones, chief of the immigration and markets bureau, Department of Agriculture, for Alabama, that morning. The publication, incidentally, brought forth a severe all-down from Commissioner James A. Wade, who charged a violation of one of the rules of his department, which prohibits subordinates getting into print with any article on the departmental work without first submitting it to the commissioner himself, and looking up real facts on hogskin leather.

A practical shoe maker, a man who has worked many years in the United States at his trade, after having spent a number of years working at it in the old countries, exhibited an inner-sole for shoes made from hogskin leather. He said these hogskin inner soles are the best for use, and that they are worked in well and successfully. He said they are in general use, but he had never used such leather either in half-soling or in making the uppers.

Uses For the Leather.

M. Sabel and Sons, dealers in hides, carry leather made from pig and hog skins, and tell of many uses that are found for it. Formerly welting was used in combining the soles of shoes with their uppers, said Mr. Sabel, but now pigskin leather is being used for this purpose, easily taking the place

of the higher priced welting. The pigskin used in this connection, he said, stitches just as well as the welting and wears just as well.

Among other uses for the pigskin leather, according to Mr. Sabel, are the following:

It is used to make the inside of shoes smooth, and for building up heels, where the leather is not even. It also is used for wall papering, but is very high in price for this purpose, and only the rich people can afford it.

Finest of Leggings.

Hogskin leather makes the finest kind of leggings, making a better such article than any other kinds of leather. It is used for the tops of boots, for saddles and in book-binding. For use in book-binding the leather comes in the shape of sides, while for saddles it comes in the same shape as for use in shoe work.

Mr. Sabel said he had never heard of hogskin leather being used as leather for the uppers of shoes, however.

Adjutant General Hubbard added his endorsement to hogskin leather as a material for leggings, saying it makes the best in the world, and the leggings are higher-priced than the ordinary leather kind.

Other Uses Cited.

Among other uses credited to hogskin leather are in making footballs, punching bags, automobile upholstering and similar work.

Emmett Jones, chief of the markets bureau, said his sole idea in writing to President Wilson and Congressman Heflin was to endeavor to provide some ways and means that might tend to release regulation shoe leather, now used for other purposes by adapting hogskin leather to those usages, thereby tending to reduce the high cost of shoes.

Wade Becomes Caustic.

James A. Wade, Commissioner of Agriculture, Friday became incensed when he read the suggestion of Emmett Jones, chief of market bureau and immigration for Alabama, which is under the Department of Agriculture, as published in The Advertiser of Friday morning.

Some time ago Commissioner Wade says he issued instructions to those in his department not to permit anything to get into the public print without first being approved by the head of the department, the commissioner. He regarded the theory of Mr. Jones in which hog skin is suggested for leather, as coming under the head of a violation of these instructions, and Friday wrote him a note to that effect, attaching a clipping of the offending article to his communication.

Theory of Jones.

Mr. Jones had given out the fact that he had written a letter to President Wilson and to Congressman J. Tom Heflin, suggesting that laws be enacted toward the use of hog skin as leather, making the point, as he put it, that the high cost of shoes in this matter might be reduced. Mr. Wade contends that hog skin is not suitable for leather for shoes because, as he says, the bristles, when withdrawn from the skin, leave open pores that would tend to cause the leather to leak.

Mr. Wade is credited with having been facetious in his comments on the theory advanced by Mr. Jones, and his note to the chief of the market bureau was tinged with caustic.

Wade's Contention.

"Hogskin," said Mr. Wade, "is not fitted practically for the creation of footwear. Shoes must be made of the leather of loose skinned animals; hogskin is tight and must be cut away from the flesh before it can be used for any purpose for which it is now employed. Take any of the skins used in making leather and you will observe this quality. The animal is always a loose-skinned animal.

"Why in dressing a hog skin every big coarse hair you pull out leaves a large pore. These pores will let it leak like a sievo.

Nonsensical Idea

"The idea of making shoes of hogskin is so nonsensical it is not worth discussing," he declared. "Besides, don't you know if the theory had any virtue whatever there are enough large leather concerns in the country experimenting constantly with some new plan of tanning and finishing skins that it would not have remained for the Alabama market bureau to present the idea to President Wilson. Some man regularly in the business would have originated it long ago.

"It is irritating to think of such a thing emanating from this department," was his final expression.

Farmers' Cooperative
Demonstration Wor
Clinton, N. C.,
June 7, 1917.

To the Farmers, Club Boys and Girls of Samdson County:

It is not too late for me to say to every man, woman, and child who lives where something can be grown to eat, that they should do every thing possible to grow food stuff. If this is not done, we are likely to experience a lot of suffering such as we have never seen before. Our beloved country having entered the Great World War makes the present time the most serious in the history of this country.

Those who are not actually fighting with guns must raise something to eat if we hope to win. President Wilson says that men and women who devote their thought and their energy to raising something to eat will be serving the country and conducting the fight for peace and freedom just as truly as effectively as the men on the battlefield or in the trenches; and they will be as much a part of the patriotic forces of the nation as men under fire. Upon the farmers of this country, in a large measure, rests the fate of war and the fate os the nations. So I appeal to you, my friends, to increase your productions of all farm and garden products. Everything in the way of food that can be raised, will sell for a high price

Plant some more corn and plenty of peas, beans, and peanuts. Be sure and keep the pigs growing by feeding them on grazing crops, vegetables, ect., instead of feeding high priced corn. Plant potatoes, velvet beans, soy beans and peanuts to fatten them on. Raise all the chickens you can. Prpare again for the high priced eggs. Save all the pullets and young hens. Plant an acre or more of sorghum cane and make your syrup. Plant a big crop of sweet potatoes, set the vines. Don't let any fruit or vegetables go to waste. Save the waste by canning, preserving or drying. Can all you can and feed the balance to hogs and cows before it rots. Turn the waste into meat and lard, butter and milk. Continue to plant a succession of crops, mustard, kale turnips, cabbage, snap beans, lima beans, squash, melons, cow peas, sweet and and Golden Dent corn. Then you must savve all the grasses for hay and plant leguminons crops for hay and soil improvement. This will cut your fertilizer bill. Remember, we should do no less work with the hand, but must do more with the head. Work six days in the week. Let us all see how much we can do, not how littls. Keep your crops well cultivated.

Shallow and frequent cultivation is needed now.

During no time in the history of the world has the position of farmers been so laden with responsibilities as to-day. This means the Negro too, because ninety per cent of us are on the farm.

G. W. Herring,

$100 Offered to Negro Boy or Girl for Best Wheat

To encourage the production of wheat in Louisiana John M. Parker has offered a cash prize of $100 for the best acre of wheat raised by a negro boy or girl in the state. Mr. Parker made his offer before the National Association of Teachers of Colored Schools in session at the Central Congregational Church.

Mr. Parker pointed out that the corn crop of the state has been increased from 8,000,000 bushels to 50,000,000 bushels in recent years. The increase, he said, was largely due to the interest created among the young farmers of the state.

Mr. Parker recently made a similar offer to the white boy who raises the best acre of wheat.

COLORED FARMERS STUDY BIBLE UNDER DIRECTION OF OWEN

Families In Joffre Neighborhood Own Much Fine Farm Land.

(Special to The Advertiser.)

JOFFRE, ALA., July 28—Laboring under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention, white, whose home mission board is located at Atlanta, Ga Rev. A. F. Owens of Selma University has just closed a series of Bible institutes held two days at Old Kingston a negro settlement, three miles east of this place formerly known as Kingston Nora Joffre. Old Kingston many years ago the county seat of Autauga is said to be a half mile from the center of Autauga county. On the exact spot where the old court house was located before it was removed to Prattville, a negro school is located known as the Autauga Normal and Industrial Institute established fifteen years ago with Rev. A. J. Jones principal.

In that two story frame building the farmers of the settlement assembled Thursday and Friday to study the Scriptures systemically under Rev. A. F. Owens dean of the Theological Department of Selma University. Some came a distance of twelve miles each day. The interest in the study of the Bible was remarkable. Lessons for the class composed of pastors, missionaries, Sunday school teachers and other church workers, will meet again October 29.

Many Own Lands.

The settlement in which the Bible school is located is composed of some of the most industrious and prosperous colored farmers in the State, all of whom have fine crops. An estimate of the holdings of ninety-four families living within a radius of five miles of Old Kingston showed nine thousand acres of land.

Among the largest are Josephus DeRamus who owns 700 acres, Horace Brown 510 acres; Solomon Houser Sr., Jack Postell and Charles Goodson 500 each; Homer Brown 310; John Gibbon John Nunn Shade Kitt, and Blakes Morton over 200 acres each; Robert Gibbon, Nathan Stewart, Fannie DeRamus the Autauga Normal and Industrial school, William Smith, Wil Gibbon Jim T. Smith, Hamp Waker, Thomas Grisham, D. L. Motley, Floyd Smith, Adeline Goodson, Willis House, Rev. A J. Jones, and Morgan Goodson own each from 100 to 160 acres. Sixty-eight other families own small farms ranging from thirty to ninety acres.

Today the farmers held a picnic on the school grounds, to raise money for a new school building.

The attendance was large and enthusiastic and quite a handosme sum was raised for that laudable purpose.

Alabama's Crops.

This year Alabama's corn crop amounts to 74,700,000 bushels. In her corn crop Alabama is beaten by Mississippi by about seven million bushels.

Alabama's oat crop this year was 8,100,000 bushels. Alabama beat Mississippi on oats by nearly three million bushels but was beaten by Arkansas by about one and a half million bushels.

The estimate of Alabama's sweet potato crop this year is 15,300,000 bushels and this beats the sweet potato production of any other State. This year Alabama is producing more than twice as many sweet potatoes as she produced last year.

Alabama's Irish potato crop this year is estimated at 2,880,000 bushels. Last year Alabama produced 1,800,000 bushels of Irish potatoes. This increase of more than a million bushels in Irish potatoes is significant. There is land in Alabama that will produce Irish potatoes successfully and this land is being found in considerable acreages in the southern part of the State.

Alabama's peach crop this year is 1,830,000 bushels, an increase of 720,000 bushels over last year.

Alabama's hay crop this year is estimated at 1,112,000 tons, an increase of more than half a million tons over last year.

Alabama's cotton crop this year is estimated at 725,000 bales. Her cotton crop last year was 533,402 bales.

Surely Providence has blessed the efforts of Alabama this year. Should not thanks for these blessings be expressed by an effort to get in more wheat, more oats and more rye than we have ever put in? Should not we give thanks to Providence in deeds rather than in lip service?

The Abbeville Southeast Alabamian tells a cheering story of the success of a negro tenant farmer in Henry county. After selling his crop of peanuts this negro paid off his debts, which amounted to $500, then deposited $1,000 and took home $205.10 for his wife and children. This is but one of many stories of the successes of negro farmers in Alabama this year. From one end of the State to the other they made more money this year than they ever made before in one year. Of course out of their receipts they had to pay old debts; but even then they found themselves in better condition than their friends who left Alabama to seek industrial labor in other States.

Agriculture – 1917

Conditions and Improvement of

Farm Animals In United States Now Compared to Former Years

Advertiser 1-28-17

The following figures show the number of farm animals in the United States now and in the past six years.

These figures compiled by the crop reporting board of the bureau of crop estimates of the U. S. department of agriculture also show the value per head of these farm animals now and their value per head the first of January each year for the past six years.

The first column of figures shows the number of the various farm animals on farms at the first of each year since 1911 and the second column of gures shows the average value per head of these farm animals the first of each year since 1911.

Horses.		
Jan. 1 1917	21,126,000	$102.94
Jan. 1. 1916	21,159,000	101.60
Jan. 1. 1915.	21,195,000	103.33
Jan. 1. 1914	20,962,000	109.32
Jan. 1. 1913	20,567,000	110.77
Jan. 1. 1912	20,509,000	105.94
Jan. 1. 1911	20,277,000	111.46
Mules.		
Jan. 1. 1917	4,639,000	118.32
Jan. 1. 1916	4,593,000	113.83
Jan. 1. 1915	4,479,000	112..36
Jan. 1. 1914	4,449,000	123.85
Jan. 1. 1913	4,386,000	124.31
Jan. 1, 1912	4,362,000	120.51
Jan. 1. 1911	4,323,000	125.92
Milch Cows.		
Jan. 1, 1917	22,768,000	59.66
Jan. 1. 1916	22,108,000	53.92
Jan. 1. 1915	21,262,000	55.33
Jan. 1. 1914	20,737,000	53.94
Jan. 1. 1913	20,497,000	45.02
Jan. 1. 1912	20,099,000	39.39
Jan. 1. 1911	20,823,000	39.97
Other Cattle.		
Jan. 1. 1917	40,894,000	35.88
Jan. 1. 1916	39,812,000	33.53
Jan. 1, 1915	37,067,000	33.38
Jan. 1, 1914	35,[illegible]5,000	31.13
Jan. 1. 1913	36,030,000	26.36
Jan. 1. 1912	37,260,000	21.20
Jan. 1. 1911	39,679,000	20.54
Sheep.		
Jan. 1. 1917	48,483,000	7.14
Jan. 1. 1916	48,625,000	5.17
Jan. 1. 1915	49,956,000	4.50
Jan. 1. 1914	49,719,000	4.02
Jan. 1, 1913	51,482,000	3.94
Jan. 1, 1912	52,362,000	3.46
Jan. 1. 1911	53,633,000	3.91
Swine.		
Jan. 1. 1917	67,453,000	11.73
Jan. 1. 1916	67,766,000	8.40
Jan. 1. 1915	64,618,000	9.87
Jan. 1. 1914	58,933,000	10.40
Jan. 1. 1913.	61,178,000	9.86
Jan. 1. 1912	65,410,000	8.00
Jan. 1. 1911	65,620,000	9.37

The number not on farms i. e., in cities and villages, is not estimated yearly but their number in 1910 as reported by the census was: Horses 3,183,000; mules, 270,000; cattle, 1,897,000; sheep, 391,000; swine, 1,288,000. The census of 1910 also reported 106,000 asses and burrors on farms and 17,000 not on farms; 2,915,000 goats on farms and 115,000 not on fadms.

Following changes in farm animals compared with January 1, 1916, are indicated:

In numbers, horses have decreased 33,000; mules increased 46,000; milch cows increased 660,000; other cattle increased 1,037,000; sheep decreased 142,000; swine decreased 313.000.

In average value per head, horses increased $1.34; mules increased $4.49 milch cows increased $5.74 other cattle increased $2.35; sheep increased $1.97; swine increased $3.33.

In total value, horses increased $24,834,000; mules increased $26,030,000; milch cows increased $166,480,000; other cattle increased $130,858,000; sheep increased $94,470,000; and swine increased $221,669,000.

The total value on January 1, 1917 of all animals enumerated above was $6,685,020,000 as compared with $6,020,670,000, on January 1, 1916, an increase of $664,350,000 or 11.0 per cent.

[illegible] APPEAL

N[illegible] 1917

Exploiting Labor.

A big problem in the south next year is food, and the big food element next year will be hogs.

There is a [illegible]ll larger problem.

It is labor.

We are face to face with a situation that ought to command the attention of every one who really has the welfare of this country at heart.

Two years ago the negroes began to go north. Other negroes crowded into the cities from the farms. A few negroes returned, but just as soon as the winter season is over they will gravitate north again.

The causes which drove most of these negroes north are still here.

The attraction of big salaries in the north is not the compelling force that took them away.

What is true of the negro labor in this part of the south is also true of white labor in other parts of the south.

We have got to make up our minds to this fact. We must make our money out of what the labor produces and not out of the labor itself. If you only make money out of what you sell the labor out of the commissary; if you get it by fees, and make nothing out of what the labor produces, then you ought to go out of the producing business yourself.

There is a business going on in this county just now which is a repetition of other conditions elsewhere.

There is a law that every citizen within a certain age should pay $3 road tax. Just why any man who does not own an automobile, or a buggy, or a horse, or a hog or a cow, should pay road tax, we do not see, but it is the law.

Now the law directs that unless the road tax is paid there shall be an added fee of 50 cents.

Thousands of white people, as well as thousands of negroes, did not know there was such a law.

After a certain number of days the claim is turned over to a magistrate, then the cost added to the tax makes a total running from $6 to $11.

A few days ago a number of manufacturers of Memphis and other employers of labor held a meeting to protest against this outrage.

The deputies were swooping down on their plants and running into houses and grabbing wretches who do not make $2 a day, and seeking to hold them up at one fell swoop for $8 or $10.

The manufacturers went to the county commission with the protest and were told that it was the law.

Well, if it is the law, all we have to say is that between the fee-grabbing deputies, the county officials, fee-grabbing in the courthouse and other fee-grabbing both in the city and in the county, then our people are in a bad way.

We talk about making Memphis attractive and about making Shelby County attractive. We want all the labor we can get to help us, yet we are confronted with a system like this.

If some effort were made to collect the tax of only $3, then in the event of failure to collect, an added fee might be excused, but there is more money made in grabbing a man and holding him up for $7 or $8 than in collecting a road tax of $3.

We not only need a good government club in Shelby County, but we need an association of business men, laboring men and professional men who are wider between the eyes than a razor blade, and who would extirpate forever from this community men who make their living out of fees or by exploiting the poor, both men and women, who are compelled to earn their living in the sweat of their faces.

Once in the history of this county there was a sheriff who attempted to stop fee-grabbing, but when the next election came his political throat was cut from ear to ear. The sad part of it was that business men and professional men and highly paid laboring men were indifferent to what happened.

THE NEGRO BOYS AND GIRLS MADE A FINE SHOWING IN NORTH CAROLINA CLUB WORK FOR 1916

The Journal & Guide

The Negro boys and girls made a very creditable showing in the club work for 1916. This was the first attempt of the Government to do club work among the Negroes in North Carolina. Only a few of them had any knowledge of such work, prior to 1916. Some had heard about it, or come in contact with white boys and girls who were members of such clubs others had read of it in the papers but a great many had never heard of the work and did not understand what it meant. So when we take into consideration their meagre knowledge of this work, the lack of information on the part of the teachers and parents as to its intent and purpose, we feel that they deserve a great deal of credit for what they have done.

A great many parents were a little skeptic about such an organization at first, and did not encourage their children to join. Some thought it was a secret society in which fees would have to be paid, and wanted to know what they would receive at their death. Others conceived the idea that the government would take their corn, while there were those who thought that they did not have to make a report, unless they made a large yield and many other erroneous ideas were prevalent where the work was not understood. But most of these misty ideas have cleared away now and the people throughout the state have a very fair knowledge of our work and are anxious for their children to join in 1917.

Results of 1916.

There were about 1175 boys and 204 girls enrolled last year in the corn and poultry clubs. Some of them made very fine reports. And all did well for the first year. A great many boys were hindered in various ways. Some by the floods, while some failed to get teams and land. But they seem not to be discouraged. In all their letters and reports they promised to do better work in 1917. This shows that they have confidence in the work, and intend to get the good there is in it.

It is also very gratifying to learn that the adult farmers give the boys credit for the unusual good crops of corn in 1916. You should see the boys smile when their fathers get up in our meetings and make these confessions.

At the State and County Fairs the boys made a much better showing in the corn exhibit than the men. They split the Sweep-stake prize at the Negro State Fair in Raleigh, in competition with the men. They took five of the seven prizes given for corn by the Guilford County Negro Fair. This has been a great stimulus to the boys and has already given much empetus to our efforts for 1917.

Co-operation Of The Jeanes Fund Workers.

We are very glad to acknowledge the co-operation of Professor N. C. Newbold, and his corps of Rural Supervisors. They have given us great assistance. Many of them have shown a great deal of personal interest, and always arranged for the comfort of the Agent, whenever he visits their counties. We feel that we owe a great part of our success to these energetic, and tireless workers.

HIGH PRICE OF COTTON EFFECTS SALE OF CARS

AUSTIN TEXAS STATESMAN

NOVEMBER 2, 1917

Due to the high price being paid for cotton the sale of Maxwell cars and trucks has increased enormously during the past few months.

The entire South is experiencing more prosperity than it has since the civil war. Cotton planters are getting a bigger margin of profit on their staple crop. Negro [illegible]ers on the cotton plantations for the first time in the history of the race in the United States have bank accounts.

As cotton prices have soared the demand for Maxwell products has increased. Owners of big plantations are purchasing Maxwell one-ton trucks to replace the time honored cotton mule as a means of hauling cotton to gins and the market. Cash payments are more numerous than in previous years.

The strong demand for the Maxwell line, both trucks and passenger cars, extends throughout the South from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, as cotton is grown in most of the southern states. In Southern California cotton is becoming a staple crop. This fall Maxwell trucks have been important factors in moving the cotton crop of California. The scarcity of labor in the valley where cotton is grown has been overcome by planters transporting pickers from the industrial centers to the cotton plantations in Maxwell truck caravans.

In South Carolina the increased sales of Maxwells has been far beyond a normal growth. As an instance of the rapidly increasing Maxwell business is the sales record of J. W. McKee, the Maxwell distributor at Columbia, S. C.

"Since July 1 my company has handled more than 1000 Maxwell cars and trucks—and that is just double the amount of our business for the previous year," declared McKee.

Railroad officials have informed McKee that in the last six months the railroads have shipped by freight more cars to his company than to any other one company in the entire state of South Carolina. So urgent is the need for more cars to handle the demand in South Carolina territory that McKee visited the general offices of the Maxwell Company in Detroit Nov. 19 to insist that a rush order for an additional 100 passenger cars and twenty-six trucks be shipped to him at once.

"Even the negroes in the South are buying cars," he said. Furthermore they have earned from the cotton crop

the yhave earned from the cotton crop raised on shares with the white planters, he informed Maxwell officials.

Mrs. Black Urges Negro Women To Raise Vegetables and Can Them

Advertiser 5-25-17

At the meeting in Albany, Ga., this week of the Colored Women's Federation of Clubs, Alice Carey, of Atlanta, Ga., presiding, a message from Mrs Nellie Peters Black, president of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs, sent the following message through the president:

"To Alice D. Cary, President State Federation of Negro Women's Clubs:

Madam President: I see that you are to have a meeting this week in Albany, and I feel that a word of encouragement and friendly interest from me may not be amiss. It want to assure you that it will always be a pleasure for me to help you in any way I can and to express my hearty appreciation of the good work you have done for your people. I hope you will lay great stress upon the necessity of fresh air and cleanliness in the home to prevent sickness. I want the negroes of Georgia to know that their white friends are always ready to lend a helping hand and to give words of advice when asked to do so by the women of your race who are working for the good of humanity. Urge your women members to raise vegetables and fruit and can their products.

"Very truly yours,
"(Mrs.) NELLIE PETERS BLACK,
"State President, Ga. Fed. Women's Clubs."

NEGROES ARE TOLD OF PART IN U. S. WAR

MEMPHIS TENN. APPEAL
JULY 9, 1917

Speakers Present Plans to the Blacks of Woodstock.

FARM SIDE IS STRESSED

J. E. Stansell, Government Agent, Lays Before Audience Need of Continued Planting—Economic Side of War Discussed.

The part that southern negroes can take in promoting the welfare of America and in prosecuting the war with Germany was presented to negroes of the Woodstock community yesterday by J. E. Stansell, federal agent for county demonstration, and by C. A. Vane, representing The Commercial Appeal, at the Methodist Church at Woodstock. Approximately 250 persons were present.

Mr. Stansell laid before the negroes the importance of improved methods of agriculture. He talked to them along lines of cultivating the crops with which they were familiar, the constant need of labor in the production of cotton, the necessity of planting food and feed crops so that whether the war continues or whether peace comes, the country will be able to feed itself regardless of the levels to which cotton falls or the heights to which it may ascend.

Mr. Stansell asked the negroes to begin planting peas for winter use, detailing the methods of agriculture employed in their cultivation, gave them a practical suggestion in the cultivation of sugar cane, corn culture and storage, the advisability of planting wheat and thus strengthening the efforts of the development forces to secure 10,000 acres of wheat for the county, told them how to preserve their first crop of Irish potatoes and how to prepare for planting their second.

In the marketing of surplus products he recommended the formation of co-operative clubs and promised whatever aid from the government forces that might be needed.

Mr. Vane discussed German and American war aims, the progress of the war from an industrial and economic standpoint and the part that the negroes could play in the co-ordination of individual effort toward governmental end.

The meeting was held under the auspices of Prof. T. J. Johnson, principal of the Woodstock Training School. Prof. J. M. Jones, principal of the Grant School of Memphis, a negro institution, also spoke.

The Woodstock school is an industrial and mechanical training institution with 504 pupils attending. It teaches the manual arts, domestic sciences and farming courses, and teaches them thoroughly.

From News, Courier
Charleston, S. C.

Address:

Date MAR 27 1917

Vegetables on the Farm.

It is not simply the people who live in towns and cities who need this spring to plant vegetables on every vacant lot. A large part of the people who live on farms in South Carolina know about as little about vegetable growing as do those who live in towns. The negroes especially frequently make no effort whatever to have a garden. Shifting about from place to place, they are content to live in houses built in the open cotton field, or on the edge of some clearing, and plant nothing at all to eat. They will let a watermelon vine grow if it comes up in the cotton patch, but they do not even plant watermelons.

Of course this is not true of all negro tenants but it is true of a great many of them. They have never done anything else and they will not do anything else this year unless they are made to do so. This is where the people who "furnish" them can do good work. Every negro tenant should be assisted to plant a sweet potato patch, for sweet potatoes will grow anywhere in this State. Every negro tenant should be encouraged to raise at least one hog—more if possible. He should be told of other food crops, such as cane for molasses, white beans and the like; and in most cases could probably be persuaded to fence in a little place for turnips, collards and other vegetables which are easily grown.

We know one South Carolina farmer who raised tens of bushels of beautiful tomatoes last summer on land which otherwise would have been an absolute waste. He simply went over his cotton fields and in the spots where for one reason or another he had failed to get a stand of cotton he set out tomato plants. They were worked just as he worked the cotton. He did not stake them or go to any extra trouble in cultivating them. But in spite of the storm which almost drowned out his cotton crop the tomatoes grew to perfection. They began to ripen while the summer was still comparatively young and they lasted until frost.

The News and Courier would be glad to have suggestions from its readers, based on actual experience, as to what can be accomplished along this line.

BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA AGE HERALD
DECEMBER 7, 1917

Must Continue to Increase Food Crops

THE south's splendid harvests this year can but be stimulating to the farmers in 1918. In Alabama the increased acreage in corn and the extensive cultivation of peanuts and velvet beans accounted for the large production of food and feedstuff.

The United States department of agriculture is urging the farmers to put forth even greater efforts next year. The only handicap will be the scarcity of labor. For several years past negroes have been leaving the farm. Many migrated to the north a year ago, but the majority of those who have quit the rural sections of Alabama have gravitated to the Birmingham district where wages are exceptionally high.

Negro leaders are doing good service in advising the men of their race to remain in the south, and those who are employed on farms to stick to farm work. Let them keep it up.

But if crop diversification is pushed next year as it will be if weather conditions are favorable more farm labor than ever will be needed. One way to solve the problem is for the young white men brought up to agricultural pursuits not only to continue in that vocation, but to quicken their brawn power as well as their brain power. One sturdy white youth is capable of doing as much work as two or three men who are past their prime.

Here in Alabama the young farmer has a wonderful opportunity. Thousands of our husbandmen are already models of industry and thrift. But the time has come when all of them should be found in that class.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
DECEMBER 6, 1917

Negroes Buying Cotton Plantations

While a lot of academic people North and South are discussing the negro problem and various solutions, the negro is quietly taking advantage of existing conditions to do the settling on his own account. Ever since the late Booker Washington began preaching his gospel of economic progress for his race he has found followers. The propaganda made little headway for a time because many negroes had not yet lost faith in the power of politics to give them everything they wanted. When this failed they turned to hard work and thrift.

Reports from experts who have been investigating conditions in the South are unanimous to the effect that while the negro has for some years been buying the land he formerly rented and the movement has received much impetus since the war began, the recent advance of cotton to thirty cents a pound has greatly increased his land hunger which is being assuaged by purchases until some of the white people are becoming alarmed. The trouble with so many white people in the South is that they would rather talk than work, that they would rather sound alarms than take sound, economic measures for their protection.

The negro has been saving his money. He no longer is attracted by tinsel and baubles. He is getting the ownership of the land and although the whites profess to deprecate this, most of them are so anxious for money that they sell to the colored brother without hesitation. The whites who are making money out of cotton are too apt to invest it in luxuries or become extravagant. So long as the negro sticks to his text and owns the soil he cultivates, he is solving a problem which politicians attempted to solve and failed.

This war is helping the negro in an unparalleled fashion and if he uses wisely the prosperity which has come to him he will compel the respect of the whites of the South and get his proper rights. As a serf he has had fifty years almost as bad as slavery. Now he is coming into his own and all fair-minded people will be glad of it.

Agricultural Credits—1917

Federal Farm Loan Banks Ready for Business Next Month

The Progressive Farmer 1/6/17

THE Federal Farm Loan Board has now announced its division of the country into twelve "Federal land bank districts," and has designated a city in each district as the locaiton of a "Federal Land Bank."

Following are the districts laid off and cities selected:

District No. 1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and New Jersey. City: Springfield, Mass.

District No. 2: Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. City: Baltimore, Md.

District No. 3: North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. City: Columbia, S. C.

District No. 4: Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee. City: Louisville, Ky.

District No. 5: Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. City: New Orleans, La.

District No. 6: Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas. City: St. Louis, Mo.

District No. 7: Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota. City: St. Paul, Minn.

District No. 8: Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming. City: Omaha, Neb.

District No. 9: Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico. City: Wichita, Kan.

District No. 10: Texas. City: Houston,

District No. 11: California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. City: Berkeley, California.

District No. 12: Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Idaho. City: Spokane, Washington.

It will be noticed that the strictly Southern cities selected are Columbia, S. C., New Orleans, La., and Houston, Texas. We congratulate them. Baltimore and Louisville are border cities, and St. Louis nearly so.

What our farmers need to remember, however, is that in so far as service to the land-owner is concerned, it doesn't matter whether the Federal Land Bank is five miles from him or five hundred miles. Having twelve banks scattered through the country instead of one central bank at Washington may give the inquiring farmer prompter attention, but the thing that really helps the farmer is not any far away bank but the little local "National farm loan association." You may have a "Federal Land Bank" in sight of your front door, but without a National farm loan association, it will do you no good. And, on the other hand, you may be the farthest man in America from a Federal Land Bank, and yet if you organize a National farm loan association, you will get as good service as anybody else.

It is said that these Federal Land Banks will be ready to lend money next month and probably at 5½ per cent. If your neighborhood hasn't organized, better write the Federal Farm Loan Board, Washington, D. C., for a copy of the free "Farm Loan Primer" and other literature, and get ready for this help, if you need it.

WHO IS THE NEGRO'S FRIEND?

Here we are again face to face with the ubiquitous Negro. He simply will not down. Now he has bobbed up to the embarrassment of the Federal Farm Loan Bank. Be it understood that the Government organized the Federal Loan Banks for the purpose of aiding farmers and innocently enough the Negro owns in Alabama 125,000 farms, 175,000 in Mississippi and 60,000 in Louisiana. Besides he is a large tenant in all of these states. Now, the Farm Loan Bank proposes to loan money to farmers at 5 per cent but it appears in order to be able to borrow money from the Farm Loan Banks the farmer must be a member of a Farm Loan Association which consists of not less than nine members and here is where the embarrassment and handicap come in.

Southwestern Christian Advocate 1/5/17

The white farmers do not want to permit the Negroes to come into farm associations In some cases they have denied the Negro flatly. In other cases they have awaited the decision of the Federal Farm Loan Board If there is any chance to find a way our Southern white farmers will bar the Negro from the privileges and benefits of the Federal Farm Loan Bank. It is very apparent that if the Negro is permitted to borrow money at 5 per cent and receive a square deal he will increase his holdings very rapidly. If the Negro has accumulated as many farms as he has in the states with large interest and bonuses what will he do if he has a fair chance at 5 per cent money?

The Negro can overcome this handicap provided nine of them can get together in the same neighborhood and organize an association among themselves. The Farm Board replied that it could not discriminate against the Negro farmers and admonished the Southern white farmers that they had always claimed that they were friendly to the industrious Negro; that they were the Negro's friend; and that now they had a fine opportunity to show it in this instance.

The Farm Loan Act

How Loans Are Designed to Be Helpful to the Borrower.

By Frank R. Wilson
Federal Farm Loan Bureau,
Washington, D. C.

Constitution 1-17-17

ARTICLE III.

It has always been recognized that the most effective aid one can get is that which enables him to help himself.

Some critics of the federal farm loan act have charged that this act makes it too easy for farmers to get into debt, and that there will be a tendency to over-borrow.

A careful reading of the bill will show that this objection is met by very carefully limiting the use to which the borrowed money may be put and by the requirement that farmers gradually each year must reduce their indebtedness.

The farm loan act was designed to be helpful to the farmer of average operations who has heretofore been denied adequate credit. It wisely limits the loans to 50 per cent of the appraised value of the security, because this limitation makes the security of a high character, thus satisfying the investor, and therefore results in a lower rate of interest.

Use of Money Limited.

The use of the money is carefully limited to the purchase of land, to pay off existing indebtedness, to purchase live stock, or to make any productive improvement such as fencing, drainage, buildings and machinery.

When money can be borrowed cheaply for productive use, a mortgage becomes an investment rather than a handicap. The farmer is enabled to get money to put his land to better use, so that the profits of his investment will pay off his indebtedness. Hereafter judicious borrowing on the part of the farmer will be regarded as business enterprise, just as it is now considered beneficial for large commercial institutions to borrow.

The farm loan act creates a form of indebtedness which peculiarly fits the farmers' needs. It recognizes that the farming business is one of slow returns.

So, it provides that a mortgage made under the act shall be paid on the amortization or installment plan through a long or short period of years. The mortgages may be made to run from five to forty years, at the option of the borrower, and they must be paid off, interest and principal, in equal installments through the period of the loans. Permission is given to pay all of the loan or any part of it on any interest-paying date after it has run five years.

Payments Required.

To give the prospective borrower an exact idea of the size of the payments required annually to wipe out a mortgage in a given period, amortization tables have been prepared. The following table shows the amount of annual payments required to extinguish, in the period indicated, a thousand-dollar loan bearing interest at 5, 5½ and 6 per cent:

TERM.	Rate of Interest. 5 per cent.	5½ per cent.	6 per cent.
10 years	$129.50	$132.67	$135.87
15 years	96.34	99.63	102.96
20 years	80.24	83.68	87.18
25 years	70.95	74.55	78.23
30 years	65.05	68.81	72.65
35 years	61.07	64.97	68.97
40 years	58.28	62.32	66.46

So it will be seen that the farm loan act, in addition to providing a way for the farmer to borrow to the limit of safety, provides that he must put his borrowed money to productive uses, and furnishes the machinery to get him out of debt in an honorable and businesslike way. The farm loan act helps the farmer by placing within his grasp the means to help himself. It makes for business initiative and independence.

(Note: Tomorrow's installment will have to do with the investment feature provided by the farm loan act.)

MAY NOT PROFIT BY THE FARM LOAN BANK

Rule that Borrower Must Belong to Association Handicap to Some Colored Farmers.

BOARD URGES FAIR PLAY

Members of Federal Farm Loan Board Has Informed White Farmers that Colored Farmers are Not to be Discriminated Against---Oppose Raising of the Race Issue.

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.)

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Farmers of the race in some sections, who expect to enjoy the right to borrow money from the Federal Farm Loan Bank in their respective districts, the same as the white farmers, seem likely to be disappointed. In order to be able to borrow from the Federal Farm Loan Bank, the farmer, it appears, shall have to be a member of a farm loan association of not less than nine members. This rule is a handicap against the Negro farmer in every neighborhood where the white farmers organize an association, and will not permit the Negro farmer to become a member of it. All applications for loans must be made through an association of this kind in order to be considered at all by the Federal Farm Loan Board, and, therefore, where there are not a sufficient number of Negro farmers in the same neighborhood to organize an association among themselves and the white farmers keep them out of theirs, the Negro farmers will have to borrow, if they want to make improvements, like their white neighbors, from other sources than the Federal Farm Loan Bank, which loans money under the system at 5 per cent.

Applications of several colored farm-

ers in the farm loan district, composed of the States of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, to become members of neighborhood association have not been well received, being turned down by several outright and in other instances their applicatoins have been taken under advisement, pending a decision asked for on the question of admitting Negro farmers to the benefit, from and by the Federal Farm Loan Board. It is learned that the Federal Farm Loan Board, on receiving these requests for a decision upon the issue raised by the applications of Negro farmers to become members of such association, replied that there was nothing before the board in the requests; that loans would be made to farmers without discrimination, so long as the farmers be on the land and seek to improve it and increase production.

QUICK TELLS BANKERS OF BIG DANGERS OF THE WAR

Federal Farm Loan Board Member Talks Plainly of Possibilities

REAL CO-OPERATION IS VITAL NECESSITY

J. Kirk Jackson Elected President by State Bankers' Association

5-13-17

(BY LITTELL McCLUNG.)
(Special to The Advertiser.)

MOBILE, ALA., May 12—"The whole question of whether we win or lose, and lose disastrously, resolves itself into the organization and mobilization of the agriculture in every state in the Union. Should Russia give way, and she is now trembling in the balance, and Germany take over that richest one-sixth of the entire surface of the earth, we alone must save France and England and ourselves from going down before the most competent, the most highly organized, the most resourceful, and the grimest foe the world has ever faced."

With these words Herbert Quick, member of the Federal Farm Loan Board, farmer and widely famed writer on agriculture, closed his talk to the Alabama Bankers Association here today.

Vital Need Now.

"It is vital that every county in this country and every community of every county do its full part," declared Mr. Quick, "to enable the United States to feed England, France, Italy and our own people, and to even suffer food to be scattered on the bottom of the sea; to enable our country to put such volumes of food upon the world as have never been produced before.

"Never has a more urgent duty fallen on the bankers of Alabama. The Alabama banker who fails now to look for opportunity to put his money into increasing production fails his country in her hour of supreme need. Never did every bank here in Alabama need so much as now a graduate of an agricultural school in the bank. The farmers need now short time loans to enable them to increase production to win for ourselves and our children the right to live a free people."

Thoroughness Necessary.

In speaking on the Federal Farm Loan system Mr. Quick said that its importance to Alabama could not be over estimated. $200,000,000 is now the total of applications for loans over the entire country. When the system begins operation the loans over the United States will run over $100,000 a day, he said. The speaker showed that this vast business, which constantly will increase, cannot be handled with haste. Action cannot come before knowledge. And he showed, how in building the system on the rock of "safety first," time, study, thought are required and the experience of some of the best brains of the country.

Two slogans govern all the loans made in every part of the United States, he said. These slogans are: "Safe Farming" and "Borrowing For Profit," and in carrying out this spirit the Federal Farm Loan system, Mr. Quick showed, has begun co-operation among the farmers of this country as there is co-operation among them in Europe.

Real Co-operation.

"The whole business of agricultural co-operation will be solved," he said, "by the confidence in the Farm Loan system and the practice of co-operation through borrowing through the Farm Loan Association now forming in every state in the Union. These associations by their very red tape, require the farmer to safeguard his own loan and the loans of those who are in the association with him. And this looking after his own business, coupled with the aid of the most experienced appraisers and farm experts the board can employ, will not only make the system the very bed-rock of safety but it will stimulate farm improvement and wealth production to a degree little reckoned at the present time."

Loans and Bonds.

Mr. Quick said that all loans would be made at five per cent. The effort is to make most of the loans for thirty-six years. With one per cent added to the five per cent each year the interest is not only paid but the principal as well. The extra one per cent paid each year pays off the principal at the end of thirty-six years. So that paying six per cent on the loan each year the farmer meets interest and principal, leaving nothing due at the end of thirty-six years on the original loan.

The bonds sold will bear four and a half per cent interest. This leaves the system a margin of one-half per cent on which to operate. "The bonds," said Mr. Quick, "are the choicest security for the interest paid ever offered the people of America." He said that they would be eagerly sought by investors looking for a fair return and absolute safety.

What System Will Do.

Mr. Quick showed by example how the Federal Farm Loan System means the real beginning of commercial banking for the country banks. He showed how the Federal Loan System in time developing to a remarkable extent the farming of every community, will put the farmer on the same basis as the merchant when it comes to dealings with his local bank.

He showed how it would increase bank deposits and bank loans to farmers. He showed how it would gradually build up a second mortgage business everywhere that would come to be even better than the first mortgage business of the present time. He declared that one of these days Alabama bankers are going to look back to the inauguration of the Federal Farm Loan System as the start of commercial banking in the small centers.

Mr. Quick was warmly received by the Alabama bankers. Physically he is a big, active farmer. He has no tricks or phrases of oratory. He speaks in terms of the farms. He utters no unnecessary words and his logic is of the rock-bottom variety. "Absolute soundness" is the phrase that best characterizes him.

Kirk Jackson President.

At the final session today J. Kirk Jackson, vice president of the Exchange National Bank of Montgomery, was unanimously elected president of the association. Judge C. E. Thomas, the out-going president, paid a fine tribute to the ability of Mr. Jackson and predicted a most active and prosperous administration for him.

Val Taylor, of Uniontown, was elected vice-president, and according to the custom will be made president at the next session a year from now.

Bartlett Re-elected.

Henry T. Bartlett, of the First National Bank of Montgomery, unanimously was re-elected secretary and treasurer. All the members of the association thanked him warmly for his able and thorough work in this important office.

Mr. Bartlett was elected to this office several months ago by the group vice-presidents to take the place of McLane Tilton of Pell City, whose resignation was accepted by the vice-presidents in special meeting.

Dr. Payne's Address.

Besides the address of Herbert Quick, the association listened to a splendid talk this morning by Dr. Bruce R. Payne, president of Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn., who is one of the South's foremost educators.

This afternoon the visitors were entertained at the New Country Club by the Mobile bankers. The reception lasted from four o'clock until eight o'clock and following dinner there was dancing until midnight. All of the visitors have been carried away with the warmth of the reception on the part of the banks and bankers of Mobile.

"We must come back to Mobile again before long," is the expression heard on every hand.

Birmingham Next Year.

Birmingham was chosen as the place of the next annual convention.

The convention urged all members to work hard for the Liberty Loan. A thousand dollars was voted by the association for its agricultural promotion work in Alabama for the next year and to study a reform system for land titles.

The following group chairmen were elected:

Group No. 1—E. A. Jackson, Hartsell.

Group No. 2—R. H. Cochrane, Tuscaloosa.

Group No. 3—John A. Gaddis, Wetumpka.

Group No. 4—Fred Curtis, Pollard.

The following officers for Alabama of the American Bankers Association were elected by the Alabama members:

Vice-President—Judge C. E. Thomas, Prattville.

Nominating Committee — Thomas Bowron of Birmingham, with Foster Hamilton of Ensley as alternate.

Vice-President Trust Section—W. L. Lancaster, Montgomery.

Vice-President Savings Section—J. L. Taylor, Mobile.

Vice-President National Section—H. C. Armstrong, Selma.

Vice-President State Section—G. A. Michael, Mobile.

HOW TO ORGANIZE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF NEW FARM LOAN BILL

Association Must Be Formed—Proper Articles of Association Obtainable at College

Chicago Farmer & Mississippi Farmer 3-10-17

The following extracts from a communication recently received from The Federal Farm Loan Board will be found of interest to parties desiring information.

"As soon as you can get together ten or more farmers or prospective farmers who wish to borrow on first farm mortgages, hold a meeting and adopt articles of association, filling in at the top the name of your association and outlining the boundaries of the district. Then have each borrower sign and acknowledge the articles of association before a notary public.

"Your association should elect its directors at the first meeting. Election should be by ballot, each member having one vote for each $5.00 share of stock held. Five or more directors may be chosen by law. Many associations are electing nine directors, for the reason that with a board of nine, there is no danger of a tie vote and it is easier to compute the two-thirds vote required to admit new members.

"As soon as your directors are elected, have them meet and elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary-treasurer, and a loan committee of three members.

"Your loan committee should proceed at once to prepare a written report fixing the valuations of the land to be mortgaged by all members of the association. This report must be unanimous.

"This is as far as you can go until the Federal Loan Bank of your district is located and established.

"Do not send any of these papers to Washington.

Blank copies of articles of association may be obtained by application to the Colorado Agricultural College Fort Collins, Colorado.

$312,900 LOANS TO ALABAMA FARMERS IN MONTH OCTOBER

11-22-17

Advertiser Bureau
(Washington, D. C.
Nov. 21

The farmers of Alabama applied to the Federal Farm Loan Banks for loans of $5,766,584 during the month of October under the farm loan system and loans of $312,900 were made to them during the month.

Amounts Applied For

The amounts applied for and loans made during October by the Southern States farmers were as follows: Virginia $5,208,743 applied for, $877,600 loaned, North Carolina $6,132,419 applied for, $284,615 loaned; South Carolina $5,320,787 applied for, $271,065 loaned; Georgia $2,525,287 applied for, $40,700 loaned; Florida $5,790,307 applied for, $32,900 loaned; Mississippi $6,352,977 applied for, $808,265 loaned; Alabama $5,766,584 applied for, $312,900 loaned.

During October applications were received by all the Federal Farm Loan banks for loans of $27,417,463; loans of $20,119,240 were approved and $7,374,044 was actually loaned out by the banks at five per cent per annum.

Double Previous Month

These figures are about double those of the previous month and Federal Farm Loan officials state is indicates that the process of making loans to the farmers is being materially speeded up.

The total applications for loans in the hands of the twelve Federal Farm Loan banks is now $193,250,945 and the amount paid out to farmers is $21,040,138.

These figures represent loans applied for by approximately 3,000 organized farm loan associations, of which about half have been chartered and half are awaiting action by the Farm Loan Bank headquarters. The officials estimate there are about 2,000 other farm loan associations being organized now.

Tennessean
Nashville, Tenn
MAR 16 1

NEGRO FARMERS OF COUNTY TO MEET

Negro farmers of Davidson county will meet at the rooms of the Nashville negro board of trade, 410 Cedar street, Saturday morning for the purpose of organizing a farm loan association. The indications point to a representative gathering of the more thrifty and industrious farmers of the negro race who will apply for aid from the United States government.

Much valuable information has been secured by the committee arranging the details for the proposed farm association, Postmaster Shannon furnishing the data needed by the colored men on the operation of the government loan system.

The meeting is to take place at 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

Agricultural Credits – 1917

Joint Liability of Borrowers Under New Rural Credits Law

Progressive Farmer

THE new rural credits law provides that every borrower through a local farm loan association shall take stock therein to the amount of 5 per cent of the face of his loan, and that double the value of this stock shall be the extent of the borrower's liability in case of default by other members of the association. 12-30-16

This means that if Jones borrows $1,000, he must take stock to the value of $50; and if one of his fellow-borrowers fails in his payments, Jones may be subject to an assessment of not more than double the value of his stock, or $100, to help make good the amount, if any, remaining due after the fellow-borrower's place has been sold under foreclosure.

Now since the amount loaned a farmer is not to exceed 50 per cent of the appraised value of his land, if appraisals are conservatively made, we doubt if there is more than one chance in a thousand for any member of an association to have to pay anything because of another member's failure. Certainly the contingency is so remote that no farmer ought to hesitate a minute, if he needs the money, at joining a local farm loan association.

Madison County Negroes Organize National Farm Loan Society at Normal

1-11-17

(Special to The Advertiser.)

NORMAL, ALA., Jan. 10.—What is believed to be the first National Farm Loan Association composed entirely of negroes, was organized at the State Agricultural and Mechanical College for Negroes here yesterday. It is styled "The Madison County Negro National Farm Loan Association," and embraces the whole of Madison County in its boundary.

There are 600 negro farm owners in this county who are in position to avail themselves of the benefits of the Federal farm loan act. About thirty-four of these negroes have applied for something like $50,000 through this Farm Loan Association. Dr. B. E. Scruggs, of Huntsville, is president, and Walter T. Gravitt, farm manager at the A. and M. College, is secretary-treasurer.

Walter S. Buchanan, president of the college, states that this is the first of a series of negro associations to be organized throughout the Tennessee Valley under the supervision of the extension department of the college.

Tennessean

Nashville, Tenn.

NEGROES TAKE STEPS TO FORM LOAN ASSOCIATION

The first steps toward the formation of a National Farm Loan association among negroes of Davidson county were taken at a meeting of a number of colored farmers in the rooms of the Nashville negro board of trade Saturday. The colored men organized temporarily by electing J. B. Mullens as president and R. H. Brown, secretary-treasurer.

Another meeting is to be held at the same place next Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock when it is proposed to name the directors for the association and sign articles to be sent to the federal land bank of this district.

It is thought that about twenty or more of the thrifty and industrious negro farmers of the county will compose the farm loan association representing a farm acreage of more than $75,000.

DEMAND FOR NEGRO LABOR INCREASING

(Special to the Blade)

On a recent trip your correspondent happened to meet with one of the prominent men in the migratory movement of the Negroes North. The gentleman in question admits that he has to do with, directly and indirectly, about sixty per cent of the Negroes have gone north in the last few months.

He is employed by a railway company and it is interested to hear him tell of his experiences while traveling through the south. "Many times he movement continues, because it is the work of God."

Wisconsin

The gentleman in question is Mr. Louis Slaughter, Irving, Kentucky, a native of Virginia. Mr. Slaughter thinks that about half of the negroes will leave the south and perhaps more. Good wages, better treatment are the chief attractions that draw the negro north. Mr. Slaughte rtold us of a friend of his who had contract with a Macaroni factory, where five hundred colored women can be employed and also a railroad in the northwest that can use one thousand colored women to wash cars at $1.50 per day for eight hours work.

Weekly Blade 3-5-17

Since the terrible European war continues, laborers are scarce everywhere. In the harvest fields of the Dakotas and Canada there is promise of a bumper crop of wheat. This will call for from 60,000 to 80,000 hands with wages ranging from $2.20 to $5.00 per day.

Mr. Slaughter comes South once a month.